

THE TIMES
1785-1985

Tomorrow

Self-made men

The tycoons who took on an industry

Calman's diary

Our intrepid cartoonist fails to buy a mattress

Muslim choice

Westerners who are converting to Islam

Up front

Kenny Dalglish, the first division's only player-manager

Portfolio

There were four winners in yesterday's £2,000 Times Portfolio competition - Mr Roy Fagan of Linton, Bedfordshire, Mr D. Rule of Tambridge Wells, Kent, Mrs Grace Buckworth of Aldwick, Sussex and Mr Cyril Stevens of Rhosneig, Glamorgan. Portfolio list, page 20; how to play, information service, back page.

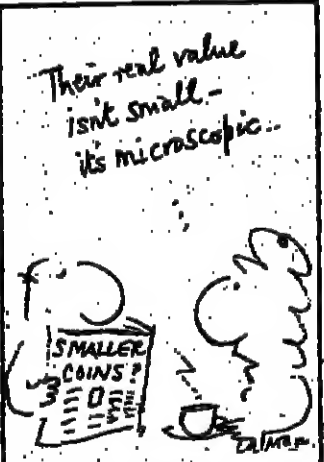
Liverpool union votes for strike

Liverpool's 9,000 council workers in the General Municipal Boilermakers and Allied Trade Union have voted for all-out indefinite strike from tomorrow.

Earlier, union officials met Liverpool's senior Labour councillors over the city's cash crisis, but refused to back a call for town-hall strike. Page 2

Duke fights tenant laws

The Duke of Westminster has told the European Court of Human Rights he is being forced to sell Belgrave homes below value because of tenant laws. Page 2



Coin reviewed

The Royal Mint is considering replacing the 10p piece with a smaller coin, and tests on possible designs are expected to be completed next year. Page 3

Fleet broadside

Lord Matthews, chairman of Fleet Holdings which owns Express newspapers, has sent a letter to Fleet shareholders casting doubts on the profits of United Newspapers, which is bidding for Fleet. Page 15

Leader page 13

Letters: On the royal prerogative, from Mr M. W. Curran, and others; hospital hygiene, from Mr P. Hartley; Exchange Rates and Trade: After the Earthquake, Polytechnic of North London; Features, pages 10-12; France closes ranks: Bernard Levin writes an 'in memoriam' to sacrifice; Miles Kingston plugs his cars; Spectrum: another Marks who sparked; Fashion: knit large; Computer Horizons, pages 21, 24, 25; European computer moves nearer; Robot pets for Christmas; Japanese wait in wings; UK Computer Press Awards; Sourness at Apple as chairman resigns; Obituary, page 14; Herr Axel Springer, Professor John Bowle; Classified, pages 22, 23, 28-30; Computer appointments, 22, 23; Legal appointments, 28, 29.

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Reagan launches new offensive on unfair trade

● Britain would have more to lose than most other countries from a surge in American protectionism, the Chancellor said. Page 15
● The Financial Times 30-share index closed below 1,000 points for the first time in nearly a month, at 995.3. Page 17
● A sharp fall in the dollar helped pound to gain 5.1 cents to \$1.4255. The dollar was also down against the mark. Page 15
● A weak dollar will help Opec maintain its price and outright quota system at its Vienna meeting on October 3. Page 15

From Bailey Morris, Washington

The Reagan Administration, reacting to a groundswell of domestic protectionist pressures, yesterday unveiled a three-pronged trade programme described as one of the policy centre-pieces of the President's second term.

In a White House address to business leaders, President Ronald Reagan reaffirmed his commitment to free trade but placed a new emphasis on the unfair trade practices of other nations which he vowed to fight with all available resources.

He will ask Congress to approve a new \$300 million (£210 million) "war chest" to fight the unfair subsidies of other nations. At the same time, Mr Reagan said he was creating a federal "strike force" to identify the unfair trade practices of other nations and counter them in kind.

He also said he would put pressure on Japan to implement its newly announced market-opening measures by setting a specific timetable for action. He charged Mr George Schultz, the Secretary of State, with the task of negotiating a time limit which the Administration has tentatively set for December 1, officials said.

Mr Reagan's new emphasis on trade policy and the tougher tone from the White House on unfair trade practices is meant to head off the passage of highly-protectionist legislation now under consideration by Congress.

White House officials said yesterday that much of the programme's success will depend on help from other industrial nations, particularly Britain, West Germany and Japan.

Mr Clayton Yeutter, the new US trade representative, placed emphasis on the decision by the group of five industrial nations to intervene jointly to bring down the dollar and to coordinate their economic programmes.

Mr Yeutter said the most important aspect of the agreement in reducing the US trade deficit, projected at \$150 billion this year, will be "what actions these countries are prepared to take to stimulate their own economies."

In an accompanying "white paper" issued by the White House, the Administration said it wanted other nations to act on their commitment at the Bonn summit to strengthen their economies but not by "old-fashioned pump-priming" increases.

The Administration wants important policy shifts in Europe and Japan such as spending and tax reductions, resource reallocation and financial market liberalization. All of those "will permanently increase growth opportunities." This was discussed by central bankers and finance ministers at the special Group of Five meeting in New York.

The trade plan, which was criticized by some congressmen as too little, too late, is three-pronged, according to Mr Yeutter.

It attacks unfair trade practices with specific measures. It includes incentives for promoting US exports and opening markets.

Mr Reagan said in his address: "I want the American people and our trading partners to know that we will take all the action that is necessary to pursue our rights and interests in international commerce. I believe that if trade is not fair for all, then trade is not free."

The programme announced by the White House would do the following:

● Enhance the powers of the US trade representative to take action against the unfair practices of other nations.

● Place new emphasis on export promotion and incentives.

● Take action to help unemployed workers in outdated industries find new jobs through retraining.

● Seek authority from Congress to engage with US trading partners in a new round of trade negotiations.

● Work with Congress in fashioning new, comprehensive trade legislation in this session. This will include special measures to protect intellectual property rights patented under US laws.

In addition, the US said it was prepared to host an important monetary meeting of the group of 10 industrialized nations to review policies and make additional recommendations.

Leading article

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The Prime Minister hand in hand with Nevis the chimpanzee at Regent's Park Zoo on her way to a reception given by the Zoological Society of London yesterday.

Handsworth riot deaths remand

By Craig Seton

Mr Mark Andrew Barratt, aged 21, an unemployed white man from Newtown, Birmingham, appeared before the city's magistrates yesterday charged with the murder of two Asian brothers at the Loxells Road post office during the Handsworth riots.

Mr Barratt was remanded in custody until Thursday, Mr Charles Ryle, his solicitor, made no application for bail.

Mr Barratt was accused of murdering Mr Kasamali Molelana, aged 38, the Loxells Road sub-post master, and his brother, Amirali, aged 44, a post office sorter, whose bodies were found in the gutted building the day after the rioting on September 9.

He was also accused of arson with intent to endanger life at the Loxells Road post office, and robbery involving £20,000 at the Birchfield Road post office, Perry Road, Birmingham, on September 10.

Mr Barratt was arrested in Newtown area on Saturday. Later, Mr Tom Meffan, the West Midlands Assistant Chief Constable (Crime), who is leading the Handsworth investigation, said: "Inquiries into the murder are still going on."

Mr Meffan said that four other people had been charged with the robbery at the Birchfield Road post office and that 120 people are facing charges arising out of the riots.

Crucial quake task for British Sappers

From John Carlin, Mexico City

Teams of international rescue experts with trained dogs sifted through the rubble of Mexico City's 400 collapsed buildings yesterday, searching for, and on rare occasions finding, survivors of last week's earthquakes.

Two RAF Hercules planes arrived in the Mexican capital yesterday from Belize loaded with specialized drilling and rubble clearing equipment, part of a massive international response in the last three days to Mexico's requests for aid.

A British Army team of 33 Sappers arrived on Sunday and the same evening began working at the destroyed central telephone office on the crucial task of restoring Mexico's international communications.

Trained dogs from France, Switzerland, West Germany and the US have proved effective in finding survivors among the massive heaps of rubble in the city centre. At one collapsed block of flats an Alsatian, belonging to a professional French rescue team, found a girl aged 20 months who was pulled out alive one hour later.

But diplomats are saying privately the foreign rescue teams arrived too late. Not encouraged by the Mexican Government to send aid until the second earthquake on Friday evening the international community only began sending equipment and rescue

specialists in the necessary quantities during the weekend. By that time most of the thousands trapped under buildings had already died.

Yesterday the smell of putrefaction increasingly emanated from collapsed buildings as corpses began to decay.

The Health Ministry has said 50 per cent of those pulled out alive have died in hospital.

Among the dead are two English women trapped in the centrally located Hotel Roma, with a third English woman, Rosemary Ralph, missing, feared dead. A British man and his Mexican wife and child have also been reported killed in their flat.

Some 300,000 people are estimated by the authorities to have fled their precarious city centre homes, more of which collapsed yesterday morning.

The latest official death toll is 2,822 dead, 4,180 missing and 6,000 injured. The Government insists the final death toll will not exceed 5,000 but diplomats and rescue workers are convinced the figure will be higher, possibly 10,000.

REAGAN VISIT: Mrs Nancy Reagan arrived in Mexico City yesterday as a gesture of United States support for Mexico (CAP reporter). She brought a letter to President Miguel de la Madrid from President Reagan.

Britons praised, page 6
Leading article, page 13

False report as child aged three lay dead

By Michael Hounsell

An NSPCC inspector sent to check on a girl aged 3 falsely reported seeing her alive and well, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

But when he made his report Heidi Kosoda was lying dead in the locked bedroom where she had been deliberately starved by her mother and stepfather, the court was told.

A neighbour had telephoned the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children on September 10 last year to report the case and the society, conferred, with health visitors who sent a woman to the flat in Hayes, Middlesex.

She saw the parents and their baby son James but when told that Heidi was asleep she left.

The neighbour renewed pressure on the society during the next three months but in December the inspector, who has since been dismissed, filed a false case record saying he had seen Heidi in September when he had found no cause for alarm.

The girl was not found until January 23 this year, when police broke down the door to the bedroom where she had been lying dead for about two months.

The case was opened by Mr Roy Amlet for the prosecution who told the jury: "I am sure that you will have to brace yourselves to listen to the details of this distressing case."

Nicholas Price, aged 26, pleaded not guilty to her murder and Rosemary Kosoda, her mother, denied murder but pleaded guilty to manslaughter on the ground of diminished responsibility.

A pathologist told the court that Heidi was just "skin and bones", weighing 25 1lb when found in the darkened room on the floor where she had died.

She lay partly clothed behind a door which had allegedly been blocked with a broomstick by Mr Price. He claimed during visits that the girl was with friends and that the room was too dangerous to enter because it had been damp-proofed with chemicals.

The hearing continues today. Page 3

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Nursery school first for Prince William

By Martin Fletcher

Prince William

Baker to publish rates reform proposals before end of year

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Cabinet will publish its proposals for the reform of the rating system before the end of the year, it was confirmed last night.

But after ministers had had their first detailed look at the conclusions of Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for the Environment, who had been reviewing local government finance for several months, it was clear that they are some way from agreement about what should be put in the present system's place.

At a two-hour meeting the Cabinet's economic and local government finance committee, chaired by the Prime Minister, considered yet again the alternative options.

Mr Baker's own preferred solution of a resident's charge to raise about 70 per cent of the present income from the rates, combined with a property tax based on floor area, appeared last night still to be the front runner.

However, Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, put forward counter proposals to retain the rates broadly in their present form, but basing them on capital rather than rental values.

There was, as expected, no disagreement over Mr Baker's plan to set business rates nationally which now seems certain to be incorporated in the final scheme.

Mr Baker made clear as he left the meeting that he would be publishing a consultation document before the end of the year. "It was not a decision-taking meeting today, and was not meant to be," he said.

Unlike similar exercises in the past, however, the document will contain the Government's own preferred solution for reform. That is certain to mean a series of urgent meetings over the next few weeks.

Whitehall sources made clear again last night that Mrs Margaret Thatcher does not regard retention of the present system as an option.

Mr Gerald Kaufman, Shadow Home Secretary, said last night that ministers had been discussing a "tax on votes". Mr Baker called it a residents' charge but it was simply a poll tax in sheep's clothing.

"The imposition would mean that people would have to pay a tax according to their eligibility for the electoral register," he said.

TUC under pressure over state ballot cash

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Editor

Pressure is likely to mount within the TUC for a special conference to reconsider the three-year boycott on state funds for postal ballots.

The demand for a special conference, possibly limited to union general secretaries and presidents, shows signs of gathering momentum over the next month among centre right union leaders. They are anxious to avoid a repeat of the crisis which nearly led to the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers being expelled from the TUC earlier this month.

Amid fears among senior union leaders that in November the union's one million members could vote in favour of continuing to accept state cash for ballots, the call for a special conference to reconsider the Wembley policy of non-cooperation with the law is expected to receive a fresh boost this week.

On Thursday, the executive of the Union of Communication Workers will consider a paper submitted by Mr Alan Tiffin, the union's general secretary, which seeks a mandate to call on the TUC General Council to authorize a "total reappraisal" of the boycott.

Mr Tiffin is understood to suggest in his far-reaching paper that TUC policy should be changed in such a way as to allow individual unions to decide for themselves whether to accept state money.

Some union leaders fear that a "yes" vote for taking state cash in the AUEW ballot may be seen as a vote of no confidence in the TUC since the ballot paper will remind members that the union recognizes the authority of the TUC and that TUC policy is against taking such cash.

Few decisive steps are likely to be taken before the Labour Party conference, but after that the General Municipal, Boilermakers' and Allied Trades Union (GMBATU), which led the call for disciplinary action against the engineering union for taking state money - could join the pressure for a special conference. The GMBATU has been in favour of such a conference and would be crucial in swinging other unions behind it if it revived its call for one.

However, pressure for such a conference, at which a decision to scrap the policy is by no means a foregone conclusion, is likely to increase as a result of the declaration in an interview with *Tribune* by Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, that he is not in principle against state funding provided that there are proper safeguards.

Strike ballot over GCHQ

By Clifford Webb

The Motor Agents' Association (MAA), which represents most of Britain's garages, is to be reorganized after the collapse of its fuel card project less than two years after its launch.

Charge Card Services, the fuel card company, went into voluntary liquidation in January with debts of nearly £4 million. A committee of inquiry appointed by the MAA yesterday recommended that the 43-member national council should be replaced by a board of 10 directors.

The committee said that the fuel card concept was good, but was "launched and operated on a shoestring budget and poorly managed".

City faces anarchy, Steel says



Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, who visited Liverpool yesterday, said that the city faced anarchy and chaos if the city's 31,000 employees strike tomorrow.

He told a press conference: "I don't want to be alarmist but quite clearly if you get a situation where normal services and facilities in the city start to break down, then you do get a tendency to slide into some form of anarchy". He said that the only solution was to disqualify the councillors and hold a quick election.

But Mr John Hamilton, Labour leader of the city council, said if he and his colleagues were removed from office under pending legal action, the city would lose its safety valve, and there could be "an explosion like the Lozells Road".

Union stalemate on Liverpool

From Peter Davenport, Liverpool

As the last pay packets were being prepared for Liverpool's 31,000 council workers yesterday, senior union officials met for almost five hours.

But after talking to four senior Labour councillors, they neither backed the strike call nor urged their members to vote against tomorrow's stoppage.

The meeting had been seen as a late attempt by full-time regional officials to wrest control of the situation from local activists.

Union leaders were said to be worried about the consequences of a strike that would put workers against workers in Liverpool, and embarrass Labour

leaders in the run-up to the party conference next week.

Yesterday's meeting heard an explanation of Liverpool's financial crisis and looming bankruptcy from councillors, including Mr Derek Harton, the deputy leader, and Mr Tony Byrne, the finance chairman.

In a statement issued later, the union officials said that they supported the city council's opposition to job and service cuts, and called for an urgent meeting with Mr Kenneth Baker, the new Secretary of State for the Environment.

Town hall unions are divided about the strike, with the teachers' unions, representing 3,000 members, and the public employees union, Nupe, with

2,000 members against a stoppage.

The key unions who will make a strike effective are GMBATU, which represents general workers and whose ballot results after three mass meetings for its 9,000 members were due to be declared last night, and Nalco, with 6,000 white collar members, who vote today.

But a city council official said that strike or no strike, the final pay packets would be dispatched this week.

Manual workers would be paid today or tomorrow, and monthly paid staff would have their pay in the bank by Friday.

Board for motor agent group urged

By Clifford Webb

The Motor Agents' Association (MAA), which represents most of Britain's garages, is to be reorganized after the collapse of its fuel card project less than two years after its launch.

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The committee said that the fuel card concept was good, but was "launched and operated on a shoestring budget and poorly managed".

Honeyford boycott suspended

From Peter Davenport, Bradford

Organizers of the classroom boycott against the reinstatement of the Bradford headmaster, Mr Ray Honeyford, yesterday suspended their action for two weeks, but with a warning that it will be renewed with increased vigour unless he is dismissed.

Children returning to the Drummond Middle School yesterday were handed anti-Honeyford lapel badges and a so-called "pupil's charter" that seemed set to cause further disruption in class.

The five-point duplicated sheet urged children involved in last week's boycott to make their views known whenever they see Mr Honeyford, and said that if the headmaster attempted to punish them the Parents Action Group would initiate a prosecution.

Four hundred and twenty of the school's 530 pupils arrived for class yesterday compared with only 141 last Friday.

Ms Jenny Woodward, chairman of the parents' group, said: "Our case has been proved. On one day last week only 140 children attended. But we have been asked to cool it. As a sign of good faith, the parents have decided to suspend the action for two weeks."

Mr Honeyford returned to work last week after six months' suspension under a series of articles he wrote criticizing multi-racial education policies in Bradford. He declined to comment yesterday on the new move against him.

Mr Richard Knight, the council's director of education, welcomed the end of the boycott as a "positive move in a difficult situation".

But he added: "I utterly deplore the wording of the document being handed to pupils. I feel it could easily be interpreted as encouragement to pupils to misbehave in school and I urge the action group to withdraw it immediately."

Airbus sales nearly equal to Boeing's

By Michael Baily, Transport Editor

Europe's Airbus Industrie consortium, in which Britain has a 20 per cent stake, is rapidly overtaking America's Boeing Corporation in world airline markets.

For the first time sales of jetliners by the two groups look like being about equal this year. That compares with recent shares of about 60 per cent to Boeing and less than 20 per cent to Airbus.

Both groups were quick to emphasize yesterday that the change in position does not spring from the recent spate of accidents to Boeing aircraft, notably the unexplained crashes of Air India and Japan Airlines Boeing 747 jumbos, and the explosion on board a British Airways 737 at Manchester.

"They have had no effect whatsoever", Boeing said yesterday. "No connection at all" said Airbus.

More likely causes are the continued strong dollar which helps to give Airbus a competitive edge on price; and the entry of the new Airline regional

airliner, the 150-seat A320 to supplement the two big sisters, the 300-seat A300 and the 250-seat A310.

If an Indian Airlines order for 31 A320s announced over the weekend is confirmed by the year end, Airbus will have captured 109 orders this year, compared with Boeing's 137.

But because Airbus aircraft tend to be bigger than Boeing's, the value of the Airbus order \$4,000 million-\$4,500 million, could be similar to Boeing's.

Sales this year, with approximate price for each, are: Boeing 112 130-seat 737s at \$21m-\$25m each; 10 400-seat 747s at \$100m; 9 190-seat 757s at \$42m; and 6 210-seat 767s at \$55m.

Airbus: 9 300-seat A300s at \$55m-\$60m; 10 310-seat A300-600s at \$60m; 29 250-seat A310s at \$50m-\$55m; and 31 150-seat A320s at \$33m (plus probably an extra 31 for Indian Airlines).

Post Office to increase mail carried by air

By Bill Johnstone

More mail is to be carried by air in the next few months in an attempt to improve the Post Office's reliability.

The Post Office denies that it is a vote of no confidence in British Rail.

The Post Office claims to have improved its delivery record in the past four months with 89.5 per cent of first-class letters delivered the following day, against a target of 90 per cent.

The revamping of the mail network will take advantage of air, road and rail crossroads at Derby, giving the facility to switch letters from one mode of transport to another depending on need.

Dogs blamed for 10,000 attacks on farm animals

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

More than 10,000 farm animals are attacked by dogs in Britain every year and only one in three survives the attack, according to an estimate by the National Farmers' Union.

The union has expressed concern at the low level of fines imposed by magistrates, which last year averaged less than £37, in spite of the fact that the maximum fine was doubled in May last year to £400.

One of the worst affected areas is the north of England, where 250 cases were reported to the police. Most involved sheep, but there were an increasing number of attacks on poultry.

Heads seek lunchtime finish to school day

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Schoolchildren in London may be moved to the "continental day", starting 8 am or 8.30 am and leaving at lunchtime, if a proposal from head teachers is put into effect.

The proposal is a direct result of the teachers' pay dispute. The two biggest teachers' unions have been refusing to undertake lunchtime supervision, leaving the head teachers with heavy responsibility at midday.

A secret ballot conducted by the National Association of Head Teachers in inner London showed three to one in favour of the continental day. If children are sent home at 1.30 pm, the lunchtime supervision problem is circumvented, but working parents would face the problem of what to do with their children in the afternoon.

That is one reason why the Inner London Education Authority does not endorse about the idea. The authority's Labour group will be discussing it today and later in the week Mrs Frances Morrell, the authority's leader will be meeting the heads.

She said yesterday that the authority was to ask Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, for a meeting to discuss the "mounting industrial relations crisis".

Yesterday Mr John Pearmain, acting leader of the local authority employers, asked Mrs Thatcher for an urgent meeting to discuss the teachers' pay dispute. He also wrote to Mr Norman Willis, general secretary of the Trades Union Congress about a meeting this week to discuss the possibility of a solution to the teachers' pay dispute.

Mr Keith appealed yesterday to the universities to close the cultural gap between themselves and the business world.

He told a conference at Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge, that they should jointly appoint staff, exchange consultants, and seek money from industry.

Public schools series, page 4

Computer forgery trial opens

Committal proceedings against two men charged under the Forgery and Counterfeiting Act, 1981, with offences involving computers, began before magistrates at Bow Street Court, central London, yesterday.

The case has been brought by British Telecom and is thought to be the first of its kind.

Mr Stephen Gold, aged 29, an accountant of Wall Lane, Sheffield, South Yorkshire, is charged with four offences of making a false instrument with the intention of using it to induce computers to accept it as genuine.

Mr Robert Schifreen, aged 21, a technical author of Edgeware Gardens, Edgware, north-west London, is charged with five offences of making a false instrument with the intention of using it to induce computers to accept it as genuine.

The offences are said to have been committed between November 1984 and last February. Both defendants elected to go to trial by jury and reporting restrictions were not lifted.

Maxwell seeks 14-day delay

Mr Robert Maxwell, chairman of the British Newspaper Printing Corporation, has asked for a 14-day extension of yesterday's deadline for the purchase of the Thomson Withy Grove printing plant in Manchester.

Mr Maxwell, publisher of Mirror Group Newspapers, last night announced an agreement with print unions for 713 production jobs at the complex, which at present employs 1,700, when BPNC is due to take over in January.

Court clears accused father

A father who was arrested and charged hours after his daughter aged 14 committed suicide last January was found not guilty yesterday of trying to persuade her to withdraw her sexual attack allegation against him.

Alan Sanders, aged 36, of Dukes Road, Gosport, Hampshire, was acquitted by a jury at Winchester Crown Court on the direction of Judge Blaker.

Rapists jailed for five years

Two rapists were each jailed for five years at the Central Criminal Court yesterday for attacking a blues singer, aged 21, as she sat reading a Bible in a south London flat.

Bruce Edwards, aged 26, of Church Road, Upper Norwood, and James Fine, aged 27, of Raiton Road, Brixton, both south London, were convicted last month of rape and aiding rape.

Rail vote hitch

A strike ballot over the closure of British Rail's engineering works at London and Glasgow with the loss of more than 4,700 jobs could be put off indefinitely after the guard's decision not to take action.

Big drop in demand forecast for coal

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Editor

Demand for deep-mined British coal could sink as low as 77 million tonnes by 1988, according to an expert analysis to be published later this week. That would require a cut in capacity of almost 25 per cent from pre-strike levels if the coal industry was to continue breaking even after 1987 when subsidies run out.

The forecast, which says that the National Coal Board will "go over the cliff" in 1987 is the bleakest yet from an independent source, and comes at a sensitive time since the board will be discussing its broad strategy with the mining unions at a meeting of the Coal Industry Consultative Council today.

The study by the specialist *Financial Times* International Coal Report suggests that the NCB's apparently healthy sales position is "illusory" and that by 1988 demand could be as low as 76.6 million tonnes and "unlikely to be higher than 82 million tonnes".

The forecasts, which will inevitably be seen by National Union of Mineworkers leaders as vindicating some of the most dramatic predictions by Mr Arthur Scargill, the union's president, are based partly on

Pits closed since January 1, 1984 or threatened with closure

Output 1981-2 (tonnes)	Output 1983 (tonnes)	Output 1984 (tonnes)	Output 1985 (tonnes)	Output 1986 (tonnes)	Output 1987 (tonnes)	Output 1988 (tonnes)	Output 1989 (tonnes)	Output 1990 (tonnes)	Output 1991 (tonnes)	Output 1992 (tonnes)	Output 1993 (tonnes)	Output 1994 (tonnes)	Output 1995 (tonnes)	Output 1996 (tonnes)	Output 1997 (tonnes)	Output 1998 (tonnes)	Output 1999 (tonnes)	Output 2000 (tonnes)	Output 2001 (tonnes)	Output 2002 (tonnes)	Output 2003 (tonnes)	Output 2004 (tonnes)	Output 2005 (tonnes)	Output 2006 (tonnes)	Output 2007 (tonnes)	Output 2008 (tonnes)	Output 2009 (tonnes)	Output 2010 (tonnes)	Output 2011 (tonnes)	Output 2012 (tonnes)	Output 2013 (tonnes)	Output 2014 (tonnes)	Output 2015 (tonnes)	Output 2016 (tonnes)	Output 2017 (tonnes)	Output 2018 (tonnes)	Output 2019 (tonnes)	Output 2020 (tonnes)	Output 2021 (tonnes)	Output 2022 (tonnes)	Output 2023 (tonnes)	Output 2024 (tonnes)	Output 2025 (tonnes)	Output 2026 (tonnes)	Output 2027 (tonnes)	Output 2028 (tonnes)	Output 2029 (tonnes)	Output 2030 (tonnes)	Output 2031 (tonnes)	Output 2032 (tonnes)	Output 2033 (tonnes)	Output 2034 (tonnes)	Output 2035 (tonnes)	Output 2036 (tonnes)	Output 2037 (tonnes)	Output 2038 (tonnes)	Output 2039 (tonnes)	Output 2040 (tonnes)	Output 2041 (tonnes)	Output 2042 (tonnes)	Output 2043 (tonnes)	Output 2044 (tonnes)	Output 2045 (tonnes)	Output 2046 (tonnes)	Output 2047 (tonnes)	Output 2048 (tonnes)	Output 2049 (tonnes)	Output 2050 (tonnes)	Output 2051 (tonnes)	Output 2052 (tonnes)	Output 2053 (tonnes)	Output 2054 (tonnes)	Output 2055 (tonnes)	Output 2056 (tonnes)	Output 2057 (tonnes)	Output 2058 (tonnes)	Output 2059 (tonnes)	Output 2060 (tonnes)	Output 2061 (tonnes)	Output 2062 (tonnes)	Output 2063 (tonnes)	Output 2064 (tonnes)	Output 2065 (tonnes)	Output 2066 (tonnes)	Output 2067 (tonnes)	Output 2068 (tonnes)	Output 2069 (tonnes)	Output 2070 (tonnes)	Output 2071 (tonnes)	Output 2072 (tonnes)	Output 2073 (tonnes)	Output 2074 (tonnes)	Output 2075 (tonnes)	Output 2076 (tonnes)	Output 2077 (tonnes)	Output 2078 (tonnes)	Output 2079 (tonnes)	Output 2080 (tonnes)	Output 2081 (tonnes)	Output 2082 (tonnes)	Output 2083 (tonnes)	Output 2084 (tonnes)	Output 2085 (tonnes)	Output 2086 (tonnes)	Output 2087 (tonnes)	Output 2088 (tonnes)	Output 2089 (tonnes)	Output 2090 (tonnes)	Output 2091 (tonnes)	Output 2092 (tonnes)	Output 2093 (tonnes)	Output 2094 (tonnes)	Output 2095 (tonnes)	Output 2096 (tonnes)	Output 2097 (tonnes)	Output 2098 (tonnes)	Output 2099 (tonnes)	Output 2100 (tonnes)	Output 2101 (tonnes)	Output 2102 (tonnes)	Output 2103 (tonnes)	Output 2104 (tonnes)	Output 2105 (tonnes)	Output 2106 (tonnes)	Output 2107 (tonnes)	Output 2108 (tonnes)	Output 2109 (tonnes)	Output 2110 (tonnes)	Output 2111 (tonnes)	Output 2112 (tonnes)	Output 2113 (tonnes)	Output 2114 (tonnes)	Output 2115 (tonnes)	Output 2116 (tonnes)	Output 2117 (tonnes)	Output 2118 (tonnes)	Output 2119 (tonnes)	Output 2120 (tonnes)	Output 2121 (tonnes)	Output 2122 (tonnes)	Output 2123 (tonnes)	Output 2124 (tonnes)	Output 2125 (tonnes)	Output 2126 (tonnes)	Output 2127 (tonnes)	Output 2128 (tonnes)	Output 2129 (tonnes)	Output 2130 (tonnes)	Output 2131 (tonnes)	Output 2132 (tonnes)	Output 2133 (tonnes)	Output 2134 (tonnes)	Output 2135 (tonnes)	Output 2136 (tonnes)	Output 2137 (tonnes)	Output 2138 (tonnes)	Output 2139 (tonnes)	Output 2140 (tonnes)	Output 2141 (tonnes)	Output 2142 (tonnes)	Output 2143 (tonnes)	Output 2144 (tonnes)	Output 2145 (tonnes)	Output 2146 (tonnes)	Output 2147 (tonnes)	Output 2148 (tonnes)	Output 2149 (tonnes)	Output 2150 (tonnes)	Output 2151 (tonnes)	Output 2152 (tonnes)	Output 2153 (tonnes)	Output 2154 (tonnes)	Output 2155 (tonnes)	Output 2156 (tonnes)	Output 2157 (tonnes)	Output 2158 (tonnes)	Output 2159 (tonnes)	Output 2160 (tonnes)	Output 2161 (tonnes)	Output 2162 (tonnes)	Output 2163 (tonnes)	Output 2164 (tonnes)	Output 2165 (tonnes)	Output 2166 (tonnes)	Output 2167 (tonnes)	Output 2168 (tonnes)	Output 2169 (tonnes)	Output 2170 (tonnes)	Output 2171 (tonnes)	Output 2172 (tonnes)	Output 2173 (tonnes)	Output 2174 (tonnes)	Output 2175 (tonnes)	Output 2176 (tonnes)	Output 2177 (tonnes)	Output 2178 (tonnes)	Output 2179 (tonnes)	Output 2180 (tonnes)	Output 2181 (tonnes)	Output 2182 (tonnes)	Output 2183 (tonnes)	Output 2184 (tonnes)	Output 2185 (tonnes)	Output 2186 (tonnes)	Output 2187 (tonnes)	Output 2188 (tonnes)	Output 2189 (tonnes)	Output 2190 (tonnes)	Output 2191 (tonnes)	Output 2192 (tonnes)	Output 2193 (tonnes)	Output 2194 (tonnes)	Output 2195 (tonnes)	Output 2196 (tonnes)	Output 2197 (tonnes)	Output 2198 (tonnes)	Output 2199 (tonnes)	Output 2200 (tonnes)	Output 2201 (tonnes)	Output 2202 (tonnes)	Output 2203 (tonnes)	Output 2204 (tonnes)	Output 2205 (tonnes)	Output 2206 (tonnes)	Output 2207 (tonnes)	Output 2208 (tonnes)	Output 2209 (tonnes)	Output 2210 (tonnes)	Output 2211 (tonnes)	Output 2212 (tonnes)	Output 2213 (tonnes)	Output 2214 (tonnes)	Output 2215 (tonnes)	Output 2216 (tonnes)	Output 2217 (tonnes)	Output 2218 (tonnes)	Output 2219 (tonnes)	Output 2220 (tonnes)	Output 2221 (tonnes)	Output 2222 (tonnes)	Output 2223 (tonnes)	Output 2224 (tonnes)	Output 2225 (tonnes)	Output 2226 (tonnes)	Output 2227 (tonnes)	Output 2228 (tonnes)	Output 2229 (tonnes)	Output 2230 (tonnes)	Output 2231 (tonnes)	Output 2232 (tonnes)	Output 2233 (tonnes)	Output 2234 (tonnes)	Output 2235 (tonnes)	Output 2236 (tonnes)	Output 2237 (tonnes)	Output 2238 (tonnes)	Output 2239 (tonnes)	Output 2240 (tonnes)	Output 2241 (tonnes)	Output 2242 (tonnes)	Output 2243 (tonnes)	Output 2244 (tonnes)	Output 2245 (tonnes)	Output 2246 (tonnes)	Output 2247 (tonnes)	Output 2248 (tonnes)	Output 2249 (tonnes)	Output 2250 (tonnes)	Output 2251 (tonnes)	Output 2252 (tonnes)	Output 2253 (tonnes)	Output 2254 (tonnes)
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Body behind locked door

Girl of three starved to death as neighbour sought help, court told

By Michael Horsnell

A girl aged three was deliberately starved to death alone in the locked bedroom of a council flat by her mother and the man with whom she lived, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

For up to eight weeks after her death, Heidi Koseda's body was left half-clothed on the floor while social workers and health visitors called at the flat to ask where she was.

Two months before she died, weighing 2st 1lb, the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children was alerted by a worried neighbour and an officer detailed to see the family, the court was told. But the officer, who had since been dismissed, later falsified a report claiming he had seen her alive and well.

Nicholas Price had ordered Rosemary Koseda not to feed the child because, he said, he was concerned about her puppy fat. She was locked in her room for three weeks and looked in on "once or twice". She never cried.

After she died, the door to the bedroom where Heidi lay was blocked by a broomstick placed there by the man who claimed the room was damp and had been treated with dangerous chemicals.

The story of Heidi's death was outlined by Mr Roy Amlot, for the prosecution, who told the jury that Mrs Koseda, aged 27, had denied murder but pleaded guilty to manslaughter on the grounds of diminished responsibility.

Mr Price, aged 37, denied murder on a date before January 23 this year when Heidi was found by police at the family's one-bedroom flat in Woolacombe Way, Hayes, Middlesex.

Mr Amlot told the court that Mrs Koseda, Mr Price, Heidi and her baby brother James moved into the first-floor flat, which had one bedroom, a living room and kitchenette, in 1982 after Mrs Koseda's marriage collapsed.

Mr Amlot said: "The allegation is that in the latter part of last year Price, together with Mrs Koseda, locked the little girl Heidi alone in the bedroom of the flat for a period of weeks without food and starved her to death. He told the police that she died in mid November and that time is probably accurate. Her body was found in that room by police in January of this year, about two months later."

Dr Rasaratnam Sarveswaran, the pathologist who examined her and later carried out a post mortem examination, told the court that the girl had died from starvation in mid November, weighing up to 15lb less than a healthy child of her age would have done. She was "literally skin and bone".

Mr Amlot said that Heidi had been a healthy baby who had progressed satisfactorily and been taken to clinics in the normal way by her mother.

After Mr Price moved in Mrs Lisa Rickard, her grandmother, saw the family regularly and Heidi remained healthy and happy.

Later the relationship between Mrs Rickard and Mr Price deteriorated to the point where she was forbidden to see her daughter and granddaughter.

It was then that Mrs Rickard became concerned about Heidi and in early 1984 she conveyed her anxiety to health visitors and social workers.

In late August, a couple moved into the flat below the family and within two weeks the new woman neighbour Miss Lorraine Martin, became concerned because she never saw Heidi, whom she had been told about by Mrs Koseda.

On September 10 she contacted the NSPCC having been told by Heidi's parents that the girl was either "in a temper" or that "she can't be trusted to go out and play".

The NSPCC conferred with Hillingdon Health Authority and on September 10 a health visitor went to the flat. She was told that Heidi was asleep and left. When health visitors called on other occasions they got no reply but left appointment cards which were ignored.

Miss Martin renewed her appeals to the NSPCC in early October and in November and later concluded that the child must have been taken into care.

Mr Amlot said: "The NSPCC inspector concerned does not appear to have done anything in response to the renewed appeals. It seems nothing was done in October and November when the little girl was alive. One understands the NSPCC was very busy."

December 16 1980: Heidi born. Mid-1982: Mrs Koseda's husband evicted. Mrs Price moves into flat. September 1983: Mrs Koseda gives birth to a son, James, by Mrs Price. Christmas 1983: Heidi's grandmother sees her for the last time. Later she is forbidden to see the child by Mr Price.

Early 1984: Grandmother contacts social services. September 10 1984: Neighbour Miss Lorraine Martin contacts NSPCC because she has not seen Heidi playing. Health visitor calls. Mr Price says Heidi "asleep upstairs".

October and November: Miss Martin makes, renewed appeals to NSPCC to act. December: NSPCC inspector makes false report claiming to have seen Heidi.

December 6: Mrs Koseda has another baby: at the flat. Authorities unaware that she was pregnant. December 17, 18, 20: Health visitors call at the flat; door not answered.

December 27: Police and social workers go to flat with search warrant. Mr Price says Heidi is staying with friends. Says Heidi's room has been treated with chemicals for dampness.

December 29: Social worker calls. Sees broom across Heidi's bedroom door jamming it shut. Mr Price repeats story about her being with friends.

January 2, 7, 15 1985: Social worker calls again. Each time Mr Price repeats explanation and refuses to let her into room because of "chemicals".

January 22: Miss Martin contacts NSPCC again and discovers that Heidi is not in care as she had been led to believe.

January 23: Social workers hold case conference and later go to the flat with police. Policewoman forced bedroom door and finds Heidi's emaciated body on the floor surrounded by furniture and tyres.

Mr Amlot said that doctors involved in the case agreed that Mrs Koseda was retarded and the Crown accepted her plea of manslaughter.

Det Chief Insp Roy Herdridge told the court of an interview Mr Price had given to police.

Asked the question: "Did you leave her in there crying, deliberately to die?" Mr Price allegedly told the police: "Yes".

When asked if he had an agreement with Mrs Koseda to let Heidi die, Mr Price allegedly replied: "We agreed that should happen - she said it was all right."

Mrs Julie Iddles, a health visitor, told the court she first went to the flat on December 17 because the community midwife had been unable to get in.

There was no reply then, or when she called again the next day and on December 20. She reported it to the social services and the NSPCC since there was concern about the baby's welfare. On later visits she was let in, but did not see Heidi.

When Mrs Beechcock came into court before Mr Christopher Voelcker, the stipendiary magistrate, she was accompanied by a woman police constable and a detective.

At one point Mrs Beechcock called out to the gallery. She collapsed, falling to the floor of the small dock, and was then helped up.

After the hearing Mrs Beechcock was taken from the rear of the court building in a police convoy to Holloway prison.

Mother of dead girl remanded

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Mrs Mirella Beechcock was remanded in custody for a week when she appeared at Tower Bridge magistrates court, east London, yesterday charged with the murder of her daughter, aged seven and the girl's friend.

At one stage in the brief hearing the proceedings were halted when Mrs Beechcock collapsed on the floor of the dock. Police officers tried to silence the public gallery.

Mrs Beechcock, aged 25, of Swan Road estate, Rotherhithe, south-east London, was charged on Sunday with the murder last

Wednesday of her daughter Tina and Stacey Kavanagh, aged four. Post-mortem examinations showed that both children were strangled.

All visitors to the court building were searched before entering. Police allowed only a handful of people into the public gallery before Mrs Beechcock's appearance.

Plain clothes officers were seated in the gallery as the public entered. A crowd gathered at the garage entrance to the building and outside the court itself.

The girl was tied up and gagged. She was eventually dumped in Great Yarmouth early the next morning close to

the caravan site where Leoni was taken.

The second incident was on Friday, June 28, at 10.30pm on the same caravan site in Great Yarmouth. A man broke into one of the caravans where a girl aged 14 was alone and in bed.

The intruder forced the girl outside by knife-point and police think he was making for a car parked near by. But the girl, from Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, screamed for help and as caravans came to her rescue the man stabbed her.

The man escaped and the girl was only slightly wounded.



Heidi Koseda (top), aged three, who is said to have been starved to death; Miss Lorraine Martin (bottom left) a neighbour; and Mrs Lisa Rickard, the child's grandmother.

Psychology test for smaller 10p coins

From Tim Jones, Cardiff

The Royal Mint is considering replacing the 10p piece with a much smaller coin about the size of the old sixpence. The 50p and 5p coins could also be reduced and the 2p coin may be withdrawn.

A decision will be taken after tests by psychologists from Nottingham University are completed next year.

There are 1,690 million 10p pieces in circulation and they are considered to be a very heavy coin for their purchasing power. Smaller coins would be cheaper to manufacture and be more in keeping with the new £1 and 20p coins.

The psychologists have been given blank discs representing different values to test on various groups, including blind people. If the tests are successful the Mint will talk to consumer groups and then submit a report to the Treasury.

One prototype of the proposed new 5p is a very small coin, about the size of the old silver threepenny bit. It may have an irregular shape similar to the old brass-coloured 3d piece.

Since the old sixpence was withdrawn from circulation in 1980 no other country has wanted coins of that size, so there would be no difficulty in introducing a production line for a new 10p piece at the Royal Mint plant in Llantrisant, Mid Glamorgan.

The proposals received a guarded welcome yesterday from Mr James Roberts, chairman of the Automatic Vending Association of Britain. He said that one of the main problems with vending machines was the handling of coins in bulk.

British Telecom said that any change in coins would involve converting public telephones, but increasingly machines operated by plastic cards were being installed.

According to the Mint the public has learnt to live with the £1 coins.

Safety on railways shows no decline despite fatalities

By Michael Bailey, Transport Editor

There was no dramatic decline in railway safety in Britain last year in spite of fatal accidents at Peabody, Wembley, and Eccles. Major C. F. Rose the Department of Transport's chief inspecting officer of railways, says in his annual report.

The total number of people killed on the railways, at 415, was 12 fewer than the preceding year. While there were 30 deaths in rail accidents (18 passengers, six railwaymen and six others), nearly half (13) were killed in a single accident at Peabody in Scotland when a Glasgow to Edinburgh train was derailed after hitting a cow.

Three passengers were killed when a passenger and freight train collided at Wembley, north London, last October, and two in a similar accident at Eccles Greater Manchester last December.

As a result of these accidents there was a public perception that safety standards were slipping, but there was no evidence of that, Major Rose said. The run of accidents in the second half of last year had no common cause or linking pattern and appeared to be "a random bunching", the report says.

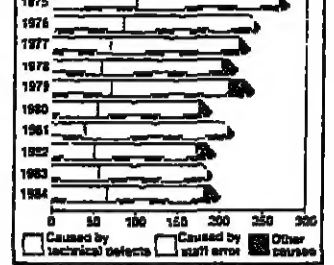
Two areas of concern are

highlighted in the report, however: human error on the part of rail staff, and vandalism. No fewer than 152 collisions and derailments, nearly 30 per cent of the total were caused wholly or partly by train crews.

There was some evidence that the number of signals passed at danger may be increasing, and it was the younger or less experienced driver who was likely to be involved.

Vandals were responsible for the derailment of five trains and set fire to 12 others last year, essentially a social problem with railways by no means the only target.

Mr Maurice Holmes, British Rail's director of operations, said that the report underlined the inherent safety of rail travel.



Talks on legal aid scheme

The Law Society is optimistic that talks with the Government on Friday will help to clear the way to a duty solicitor scheme under which suspects in police custody will be able to obtain round-the-clock legal advice.

But although the discussions are expected to resolve difficulties over "two-tier" payments for lawyers other problems mean it is unlikely that the scheme will come into force on January 1 as planned.

Under the proposals solicitors called to a police station to advise someone suspected of an

"arrestable offence" will be paid £27 an hour during the day or £36 an hour at night. But there would be a fixed maximum of £50 on less serious offences. Lawyers are concerned that charges including indecent assault, causing actual bodily harm and assault on police will be in the lesser category.

Mr Andrew Lockley, the Law Society's chief negotiator, is optimistic that the government will agree to talks with the Lord Chancellor's department on Friday to move those into the group of more serious offences.

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- ☐ Have the holiday of a lifetime
- ☐ Own a sailing dinghy

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- ☐ Buy a new car
- ☐ Put an extension on the house
- ☐ Have a holiday flat at the seaside
- ☐ Own a speedboat

If I had £10,000 I would:

- ☐ Buy a new car and caravan
- ☐ Put it towards a retirement cottage
- ☐ Have a holiday flat in Spain
- ☐ Own a motor cruiser

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Male	Female	Guaranteed Sum Assured	Capital Bonus	Annual Bonus	Total Maturity Value	Guaranteed Sum Assured	Capital Bonus	Annual Bonus	Total Maturity Value
18	28	£2,129	£2,129	£1,361	£4,620	£4,622	£4,622	£2,362	£7,606
19	29	2,179	2,179	1,401	4,760	4,762	4,762	2,402	7,864
20	30	2,128	2,128	1,441	4,700	4,702	4,702	2,382	7,864
21	31	2,128	2,128	1,481	4,700	4,687	4,687	2,382	7,836
22	32	2,128	2,128	1,521	4,700	4,674	4,674	2,382	7,836
23	33	2,128	2,128	1,561	4,700	4,662	4,662	2,382	7,836
24	34	2,128	2,128	1,601	4,700	4,650	4,650	2,382	7,836
25	35	2,128	2,128	1,641	4,700	4,638	4,638	2,382	7,836
26	36	2,128	2,128	1,681	4,700	4,626	4,626	2,382	7,836
27	37	2,128	2,128	1,721	4,700	4,614	4,614	2,382	7,836
28	38	2,128	2,128	1,761	4,700	4,602	4,602	2,382	7,836
29	39	2,128	2,128	1,801	4,700	4,590	4,590	2,382	7,836
30	40	2,128	2,128	1,841	4,700	4,578	4,578	2,382	7,836
31	41	2,128	2,128	1,881	4,700	4,566	4,566	2,382	7,836
32	42	2,128	2,128	1,921	4,700	4,554	4,554	2,382	7,836
33	43	2,128	2,128	1,961	4,700	4,542	4,542	2,382	7,836
34	44	2,128	2,128	2,001	4,700	4,530	4,530	2,382	7,836
35	45	2,128	2,128	2,041	4,700	4,518	4,518	2,382	7,836
36	46	2,128	2,128	2,081	4,700	4,506	4,506	2,382	7,836
37	47	2,128	2,128	2,121	4,700	4,494	4,494	2,382	7,836
38	48	2,128	2,128	2,161	4,700	4,482	4,482	2,382	7,836
39	49	2,128	2,128	2,201	4,700	4,470	4,470	2,382	7,836
40	50	2,128	2,128	2,241	4,700	4,458	4,458	2,382	7,836
41	51	2,128	2,128	2,281	4,700	4,446	4,446	2,382	7,836
42	52	2,128	2,128	2,321	4,700	4,434	4,434	2,382	7,836
43	53	2,128	2,128	2,361	4,700	4,422	4,422	2,382	7,836
44	54	2,128	2,128	2,401	4,700	4,410	4,410	2,382	7,836
45	55	2,128	2,128	2,441	4,700	4,398	4,398	2,382	7,836
46	56	2,128	2,128	2,481	4,700	4,386	4,386	2,382	7,836
47	57	2,128	2,128	2,521	4,700	4,374	4,374	2,382	7,836
48	58	2,128	2,128	2,561	4,700	4,362	4,362	2,382	7,836
49	59	2,128	2,128	2,601	4,700	4,350	4,350	2,382	7,836
50	60	2,128	2,128	2,641	4,700	4,338	4,338	2,382	7,836
51	61	2,128	2,128	2,681	4,700	4,326	4,326	2,382	7,836
52	62	2,128	2,128	2,721	4,700	4,314	4,314	2,382	7,836
53	63	2,128	2,128	2,761	4,700	4,302	4,302	2,382	7,836
54	64	2,128	2,128	2,801	4,700	4,290	4,290	2,382	7,836
55	65	2,128	2,128	2,841	4,700	4,278	4,278	2,382	7,836
56	66	2,128	2,128	2,881	4,700	4,266	4,266	2,382	7,836
57	67	2,128	2,128	2,921	4,700	4,254	4,254	2,382	7,836
58	68	2,128	2,128	2,961	4,700	4,242	4,242	2,382	7,836
59	69	2,128	2,128	3,001	4,700	4,230	4,230	2,382	7,836
60	70	2,128	2,128	3,041	4,700	4,218	4,218	2,382	7,836

Public schools: 2

Headmasters are shy of making examination results known

In the second part of a series on the public schools, Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent, looks at their examination results. Why do the independent schools not allow A level results to be published in the interests of parental choice?

The sales pitch of today's public schools is academic excellence. "We will get your child through those O and A levels, and into university," they promise the anxious parent. "Along the way we will build character and educate the whole person, awakening an appreciation of the arts and instilling respect for oneself and others," they add.

Parents buy the package, but more than anything else they buy the promise of exam results. So what are the A level results of the public schools? How do they compare with one another and with those in the maintained sector? The answer is that no one knows because the schools' policy is not to divulge the figures.

The subject has come up several times over the years in the debates of the politics and public relations committee of the Headmasters' Conference, the association of top public schools which meets in Oxford today.

Each time the committee has decided not to make the results public on the grounds that, if it did so, someone would draw up a league table, which would be unfair to a school which is doing an excellent job with average or below children. Such a school might come low in an examinations league table, thus deterring prospective parents, tarnishing its reputation and reflecting an unfair picture.

Mr Martin Rogers, Chief Master of King Edward's School, Birmingham, further argues that league tables are bad for children. They add to the already considerable pressure on a child from parents, staff and society generally, he says.

Mr Rogers, headmaster of one of the most academically successful schools in the country, was prepared to give *The Times* his A level results for last year. He said he was not against releasing such information so long as a league table was not compiled.

The Times sought examination results from a small number of the most academic public schools. Most were prepared to release them. All the schools did extremely well.

Rugby refused to speak to *The Times* and Harrow referred the matter to the governors. They commented that they had "grave hesitation about the manner in which league tables are produced" but said that Harrow's pass rate was 93 per

A level exam results Summer 1985

	Candidates	A levels	% Grade A	% ABE	% ABCDE (ie pass)
Bradford Grammar School	150	455	30	67	91
Eton	262	787	34	78	96
Harold's Cross School	130	428	39	78	96
King Edward's, Birmingham	99	411	50.6	81.5	95
Manchester Grammar School	515	1545	46.4	84.1	97.5
Radley	117	360	50.3	74.4	95.3
Royal Grammar School, Newcastle upon Tyne	142	440	28.9	68.4	91.1
Westminster	144	458	43	84	97
Winchester	100	328	41	83	92

Both Dr David Owen and Mr David Steel made a feature of their proposals for constitutional reform in their Dundee speeches last week.

An Alliance government with an overall majority would introduce the single transferable vote system of proportional representation; legislate for parliamentary assemblies for Scotland and Wales; and probably or possibly (depending upon which David's speech is considered the more authoritative) give devolution to the English regions as well.

Yet neither leader seems to see the need for a referendum before implementing any of these proposals. This would mean that a far-reaching programme of constitutional change could be imposed without any certainty of specific public approval.

Three arguments are used to justify such a cavalier intention: that the proposals would be so obviously popular that the question does not arise; that in voting for an Alliance government the electorate would already have voted for the principal measures in the manifesto; and that anyway Britain is not and should not be governed by referendum.

I cannot see how the first of these propositions could possibly apply to devolution for the English regions or for Wales. Mr Steel promised in his speech only to "shift power to the people and regions of England as the demand takes shape". How is that to be judged beyond dispute unless by referendum?

When the Welsh electorate voted on devolution in 1979 only 12 per cent gave their support. So how could it be taken for granted that even an improved scheme would have the backing of a majority?

The position of Scotland is a little different because 33 per

Army chiefs should work in industry, study says

By Henry Stanhope

A radical scheme under which the Army's most promising young battlefield commanders would be seconded to top jobs in industry in peacetime, is called for in a book published today.

It also seeks the abolition of the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, the mystique of which "offends" other soldiers and civilians, it says, and calls for the commissioning of more officers through the ranks.

Those are among proposals put forward by Brigadier Richard Simpkin, a former officer in the Royal Tank Regiment, in a study of warfare in the next century that is bound to cause controversy in military circles.

He says that officers in peacetime have to spend too much time pleasing their superiors and have "everything to lose and nothing to gain" by displaying the kind of audacity which wins battles in the field.

That is why, whenever war breaks out, the Army has to spend the first part of it replacing the "atrophied" peace-time generals with those better suited to take critical decisions, he believes.

The kind of men to whom top command should go on the battlefield might be, for example, Sir Michael Edwards or even Mr Ian MacGregor, who are trained to take big decisions every day of their lives, he suggests.

Brigadier Simpkin says that a select band of officers who show the right qualities should be plucked from the Army at the level of lieutenant-colonel and found jobs in industry. They could then be recalled to the colours in a crisis. Meanwhile, Nato should strengthen its defences in Central Europe by adding two more army corps, one to be found by West Germany and the other by Britain, and paid for partly by dropping or postponing the Trident missile programme.

Race to the Swift by Richard Simpkin (Brasssey's £25).

Father faces drug charges

John Shorthouse, the father of the boy aged five who was shot dead during a police raid, faced new charges when he appeared with two other men before the Llanelli magistrates in South Wales yesterday.

The three are charged with robbing Mr Norman Aubrey of £180 and two cheques.

Mr Shorthouse, aged 26, unemployed, of King's Norton, Birmingham, faces additional charges of possessing cannabis and possessing with intent to supply. All three were remanded in custody for seven days.

'Observer' case opens in Bath

Committal proceedings started at Bath Magistrates' Court yesterday against *The Observer*, accused of having paid bribes totalling £1,500 to a Civil Servant for defence information.

It is alleged that the newspaper corruptly gave Raymond Williams, a former senior executive officer in the Ministry of Defence Navy department at Farnhill, Bath, two payments in November 1983 of £1,000 and £500 "as an inducement or reward for showing favour".

commitment, but elections are not fought on a single pledge. The election of an Alliance government would not necessarily indicate majority support for its constitutional programme. That could be determined only by a referendum on each measure.

It is not true that referendums are unknown to British constitutional practice. Apart from the devolution referendums in 1979, there was the referendum on British membership of the European Community four years before, and on the future of Northern Ireland in 1973.

All these referendums were concerned with major constitutional issues. They were determining the system under which policy should be decided, for that purpose referendums are acceptable and sometimes essential.

One of the most precious gifts of any democratic country is the public acceptance of the legitimacy of its political system. That can be conferred in a number of ways, not least by tradition. It is no small thing that, with the periodic anomaly of Northern Ireland, Britain has been a unitary state for nearly three hundred years. Nor that it has had essentially the same method of election for centuries.

It does not follow that these arrangements can never be changed. But they should be changed only with evident public approval. To dispense with a referendum for either Scottish or Welsh devolution, when the previous one failed to produce the necessary majority, would be like telling the empire to stay at home because he had given a displeasing decision. That would look more like John McEnroe than the two Davids.

To make even the most popular reform without proving that it had public consent would be bad constitutional practice and worse politics.



Robert Guillaume being presented with his second Emmy statuette, by Linda Gray of *Dallas*; and, right, the best actor and actress in a drama series, William Daniels and Tyne Daly.

Chinese leaders in rare public conflict

From Mary Lee, Peking

China's senior statesman, Mr Deng Xiaoping, and the veteran economic planner and chief disciplinarian, Mr Chen Yun, crossed swords in their policy speeches on the final day of the Communist Party's special conference yesterday.

The octogenarians - both members of the Politburo standing committee - gave a rare display of conflict when they addressed the 936-delegate meeting.

Mr Deng, aged 81, who spoke first, said that "the utilization of foreign investment funds in a planned way and the promotion of a degree of individual economy are both serving the development of the socialist economy".

He conceded that "the pernicious influence of capitalism and feudalism has not been reduced to a minimum" and that "some evil things that had long been extinct after liberation have come to life again", but he showed optimism by saying that "as long as we face them squarely and take firm steps to deal with them, it will not be difficult to solve these problems".

Mr Chen, aged 80, however, zeroed in on the effects which Dengist economic liberalization has had on grain production, central planning and party conduct and image. More significantly, he was silent on the link between promoting younger technocrats and continuity of the reforms, particularly the open-door policy.

He merely emphasized the importance of "an orderly succession of cadres from generation to generation" which contrasted sharply with Mr Deng's explanation of the rejuvenation policy: "The succession of new cadres to old provides the organizational guarantee for the continuity of our party's policies".

Mr Chen criticized the way "some peasants are no longer interested in growing grain" and "not even interested in raising pigs and vegetables because in their opinion there can be no prosperity without engaging in industry". He cautioned against the development of township enterprises - a Dengist move - at the expense of agriculture.

Mr Chen went on to attack the methods of reforming the economy, saying that "the general orientation is correct", but the experiments being implemented should be planned carefully and reviewed constantly.

But he is sharper in his criticisms of senior party leaders who have swayed from the doctrine of good Communist behaviour.

Mr Chen's speech ends with a sharp "that's all I have to say" which, coming after Mr Deng's flurry about the need for all party members new and old to study Marxist theory "not (as) dogma but (as) a guide to action" to "devise solutions to new problems", looks like the last - and very lonely - stand of a conservative revolutionary.

TV Emmy honour for Alistair Cooke

Pasadena (AP, Renter) - Alistair Cooke, the veteran journalist best known to American television viewers as the host of the Public Broadcasting Corporation's *Masterpiece Theatre*, received the Television Academy's Governors Award at the 37th annual Emmy awards ceremony.

The Jewel in the Crown, produced by Britain's Granada Television, was named outstanding limited series.

Police dramas dominated the awards on Sunday night. The show that won the most golden statuettes was *Cagney and Lacey*. It won in four of the eight categories for which it was nominated: best drama series, best writing, best directing, and the best actress award, which went to Tyne Daly, who plays Mary Beth Lacey.

Hill Street Blues, which needed five awards to become the all-time Emmy leader, ahead of *The Mary Tyler Moore Show*, also won one award.

The Cosby Show, the mostly highly rated series in its first year on the air, won three of its eight categories: outstanding comedy series, best-written comedy and outstanding director.

Jane Curtin was named outstanding lead actress in a comedy series, *Kate and Allie*, for the second successive year. Robert Guillaume won his second Emmy, for best actor in a comedy series for his role in *Benson*.

William Daniels was named best actor for his role as Dr Mark Craig in the hospital drama *St Elsewhere*.

Poll puts Gandhi ahead in Punjab

From Michael Hamlyn, Chandigarh

As campaigning closed with six bomb explosions before the key election in the troubled state of Punjab, the Indian Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, learned that his party is likely to triumph at the polls... but that was not necessarily good news for him.

Political pundits, commentators, observers and newspapermen all agree that the best solution for Punjab would be for the Sikh political party, the Akali Dal, to form the State government after the election.

If Mr Gandhi won marginally, he could still instal an Akali

ministry and provide it with tacit support from members of his party, Congress (I).

But a poll published yesterday by the respected Bombay newspaper *The Times of India*, shows Congress leading by seven points; translated into State Legislative Assembly seats (115 are contested tomorrow) this would mean 76 for Congress and only 41 for the Akalis.

Another significant finding of the poll is that other Opposition parties would be virtually extinguished.

The hopes of the Hindu-

dominated Bharatiya Janata Party that it would be a big beneficiary of Hindu discontent with the ruling party in Punjab seems likely to be dashed.

According to the poll, the BJP will get only 3.3 per cent of the vote. The two Communist parties which have combined for the purpose of this election will together get only 4.25

The poll was more or less peaceful until yesterday.

But a teenage girl was killed and two other were seriously hurt when a bomb exploded in a car belonging to a Congress woman MP in Batala.

Gun battle at bank kills eleven

Kuala Lumpur (AP) - Eleven people were killed and several others injured in a gun battle between police and 15 robbers who raided banks and an airline office at Lahad Datu, Malaysia, and escaped in two speed boats.

The national news agency quoted police sources as saying those killed included a police officer, two bank security guards, two bank staff, two of the robbers and some bystanders. It quoted an official of the British-owned Standard Chartered Bank as saying 10 people were killed there.

The robbers were dressed in what looked like military uniforms and armed with A 16 rifles.

New minister

Bangkok (AFP) - The Thai Prime Minister, Mr Prem Tinsulanonda, named Mr Chirayut Isarangkun, a 43-year-old Australian-educated economist, to replace the former Industry Minister, Mr Ob Vastratna, who resigned last week after an aborted coup.

Paisley protest

Londonderry, New Hampshire (AP) - About 100 protesters demonstrated during an appearance by the Rev Ian Paisley, leader of Northern Ireland's Democratic Unionists who addressed about 200 people in a tent.

Heart man well

Amman (AFP) - Abdallah Muhammad Khalid, aged 23, the Arab world's first heart transplant patient, is doing well here, 44 days after surgery by a Jordanian medical team led by Dr Daud Hanania.

Tamils blamed

Colombo (AFP) Tamil militants are blamed for killing a man and a woman on Sri Lanka's east coast near Trincomalee. Sources believed they were suspected of being informants.

Keeping faith

Peking (AP) - There are 225,400 practicing Muslims, Christians and Buddhists in Peking, according to a newspaper report that quoted the director of the city's Religious Affairs Bureau.

Filipino gunmen murder editor

From Keith Dalton, Manila

Gunmen shot dead another Philippines journalist yesterday the twelfth killed this year. Like the others Mr Randolph Sunico was killed "execution style", police said.

Four unidentified gunmen stalked the 50-year-old editor of the weekly *Southern Philippines Chronicle* as he returned home from covering an anti-government rally in Davao City, 600 miles south of Manila, they said. When he tried to run, he was cornered and shot with a single bullet in the forehead. He died on the spot.

Mr Sunico is the third Davao journalist killed this year and the 23rd newsmen murdered since 1979. Military investigators in near by Zamboanga City are continuing an investigation into the other 22 killings which was ordered last month by President Marcos.

More than 500 Filipino journalists, in a letter handed delivered to Mr Marcos, had complained of official inaction over the other deaths.

In the only case to be solved, a soldier, convicted of killing a journalist in November last year had to be sentenced in his absence to 20 years jail because he had escaped from his cell at military headquarters three months before sentencing.

The National Press Club believes soldiers and militiamen could be responsible for a number of the unsolved killings. President Marcos, meanwhile, ordered the armed forces chief, Lieutenant-General Fidel Ramos to investigate the killing of 20 protesters shot dead last Friday when soldiers fired on anti-government demonstrators in Escalante.

● ZAMBOANGA CITY: Unidentified men shot and killed the Vice-Governor of Sulu province and three of his bodyguards in the provincial capital of Jolo yesterday.

GOING DOWN WITH THE SHIP?

MEXICO'S EARTHQUAKE TRAGEDY
Making Cities Safer
Newsweek
September 30, 1985
THE INTERNATIONAL NEWSMAGAZINE

GREENPEACE
FIASCO



ON SALE NOW

GET TO GRIPS WITH IT.

Pentagon tries savage cuts to save nuclear programme

From Christopher Thomas, Washington.

Faced with an enormous curb on military spending in the next five years, the Pentagon plans to slash projected investment on a wide range of conventional weaponry in order to spare its nuclear weapons programme from cutbacks.

Officials emphasize that the US must continue to boost the strategic modernization programme to keep pace with the Soviet Union's massive nuclear build-up.

The nuclear weapons programme, which consumes 14 per cent of the Pentagon budget, will be left virtually intact.

The cuts, which Congress will have to approve, will delay replacement of ageing tanks, ships, missiles and aircraft. Ammunition stockpiles and spare parts will be reduced.

Plans to increase the number of aircraft carriers from 13 to 15 and to expand air force tactical fighter wings from 36 to 40 may be scaled back.

The Pentagon, however, has put strong emphasis on avoiding the cancellation of vital weapons projects and is also anxious to prevent any cuts which could damage morale.

Administration officials say the Army will bear the brunt of the cuts. It will have 20 per cent

fewer armoured troop carriers than planned, 30 per cent fewer Patriot air defence missiles and far fewer helicopters and anti-tank missiles.

There will be a 20 per cent reduction in air force tactical aircraft, a 15 per cent reduction for navy tactical aircraft, with probable cutbacks in heavy transport planes.

Additionally, navy plans for 1989 have been reduced by 20 warships, including six of the billion-dollar Aegis cruisers designed to defend the fleet against air attack.

Because of congressional budget reductions the Pentagon is having to save \$40 billion (\$28 billion) from its 1987 budget proposals, which President Reagan will submit to Congress in January.

The Pentagon is making only one concession on its nuclear programme. Instead of requesting funds for 48 MX missiles next year, it will seek approval for only 21, thus saving about a billion dollars.

The Administration will request \$315 billion - \$39 billion less than projected earlier this year. The Pentagon is attempting to cut total of \$300 billion from the five-year plan drawn up last year.

Spain takes mystery sea attacks to UN

Madrid (Reuters) - Spain has increased its efforts to track down those who attacked one of its naval patrol boats and a trawler off Morocco, killing a petty officer. Two men were injured and seven fishermen are missing.

The Spanish Foreign Ministry said yesterday that guerrillas of the Algerian-backed Polisario Front, fighting Morocco for the independence of the Western Sahara, were considered most likely.

The Foreign Minister, Señor Francisco Fernández Ordóñez, in New York for the UN General Assembly, discussed the matter with the foreign ministers of Morocco, Algeria and Mauritania, and diplomatic sources in Rabat say that the Spanish Ambassador, Señor Raimundo Bassols, called on the Moroccan Foreign Ministry.

On Saturday a telephone caller claiming to represent the Polisario in Paris told a Spanish radio station the group had attacked the ships. But Polisario in Paris yesterday denied having claimed responsibility, and Polisario officials in Algeria said they lacked information.

In the incident, the naval vessel Tagomago came under fire from the shore while searching for the seven crew of the trawler Junquito, which had been seen ablaze about a mile off the coast.



A Sunni Muslim militiaman with an American M16 rifle patrolling a rubble-strewn street in Tripoli during a shaky truce before yesterday's flare-up.

Militia war flares up as Tripoli truce fails

Tripoli (Reuters) - Fierce fighting broke out again yesterday in this north Lebanon city after a 12-hour lull in militia battles which have caused more than 400 casualties in eight days.

Clashes and artillery duels flared in mid-afternoon, police said, while Beirut Radio reported that two Israeli warplanes broke the sound barrier over the city.

Police said residential districts far from militia battle lines were coming under artillery fire. Seven shells fired from outside the city burst 60 yards from its police headquarters.

Fighting and shelling had stopped earlier after Syrian Army officers held talks with Sheikh Sayed Shaaban, chief of the Sunni Muslim fundamentalists battling the pro-Syrian Arab Democratic Party (ADP) for control of the city.

Violence on Sunday night killed five people and wounded 45, bringing the toll to around 95 dead and 330 hurt, police said. Up to 250,000 of Tripoli's 700,000 people had now fled to safer areas nearby.

BEIRUT: President Assad of Syria congratulated President Gemayel of Lebanon yesterday on the third anniversary of his inauguration and pledged to help him and Lebanon's civil war, official sources said (Reuters reports).

Archbishop's envoy seeks release of Lebanon hostages

By Clifford Longley

Mr Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's secretary for Anglican Communion affairs, flew to New York last night as part of his latest efforts to secure the release of Western hostages from Muslim groups in Lebanon.

He is to meet the Rev Benjamin Weir, the American Presbyterian minister who was released last week in Beirut, to discuss what further steps to take, based on the knowledge Mr Weir obtained in captivity.

Mr Waite was involved in Mr Weir's release. But as 11 American and one British - are still held, details of his intervention have not been made public. It is understood there has been contact between Mr Waite and the Islamic Jihad group, and possibly other Agency.

Anger at Thatcher move

Jerusalem - Britain's Ambassador to Israel, Mr William Squires, was called in yesterday to receive a formal protest from the Israeli Government about Mrs Thatcher's decision to invite two Palestine Liberation Organization executives to London and recent British arms deals with Jordan and Saudi Arabia (Ian Murray writes).

The angry note said the actions "constitute a significant deviation from past British policy." Mr Moshe Aram, acting Foreign Minister, said the PLO was a terrorist organization committed to the destruction of Israel, while the arms sales were being made to two countries still in a state of war with Israel.

Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the vice-premier, is certain to register a protest with Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, at the UN General Assembly in New York today.

McFarlane predicts arms breakthrough

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

Mr Robert McFarlane, President Reagan's National Security adviser, has predicted in a surprisingly optimistic statement that there is "a very good prospect" that within a year there will be some kind of arms agreement with the Soviet Union.

He reiterated in a television interview on Sunday that there would be no US compromise on development and testing of the controversial Strategic Defence Initiative, which Moscow opposed bitterly.

But he pointed out that the superpowers had mutual interests in strategic defence, fear of the consequences of nuclear action by third nations and reducing offensive arms systems. "I think that what we will define is what mix of offence and defence serves security interests of us all."

He repeated President Reagan's argument that SDI should not become a bargaining chip in the Geneva arms talks because it is the best potential deterrent to a continued build-up of nuclear weapons and because the Soviet Union's offensive strength is increasingly immeasurable.

The President's position, he said, was that both the superpowers could gain by the integration of non-nuclear defence into their forces and dispensing with nuclear weapons.

Mr McFarlane said that a recent Soviet denial that Moscow was developing a star wars system of space weapons to defend against nuclear attack was simply a lie.

Human rights, he said, would be raised by President Reagan at the meeting with Mr Gorbachev in Geneva in November adding that it was "the leading issue on our agenda."

President Reagan said in his weekend radio address that the Soviet Union had engaged in a military build-up which far exceeded any rational definition of its defensive needs.

"These policies have inflicted bitter costs on the Soviet peoples," he said. "Every week Russian soldiers are dying in Afghanistan, while their standard of living has changed accordingly. Mr Gorbachev can change this. He can set in train a policy of arms reduction and lasting peace."

PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE

Chile

Pedro Fernandez Lembach

By Caroline Moorehead

At 9 o'clock on the evening of May 8, 1980, Pedro Fernandez Lembach was on his way to a cinema in Santiago when he and his girl friend, Costanza Villaseca, were arrested by the CNI, the Chilean secret police.

Señorita Villaseca was eventually freed, and now lives in Britain. But her boy friend is in Linares prison, serving a 10-year sentence on charges of illegal possession and manufacture of explosives.

Family, friends and the Chilean Committee for Human Rights insist that these charges are false.

At the time of his arrest he was 29 and worked as an assistant in a chemist shop. During the first 10 days of his detention he was tortured repeatedly - watched by Señora Villaseca - with the result that his health appears to have been affected permanently. He has a gastric ulcer, a nervous allergy and problems with his upper jaw.

Before his trial, which came three years after his arrest, he was moved constantly from prison to prison.

In December 1983 Britain granted him a visa, and his lawyer has appealed for his sentence to be commuted to one of exile. A verdict is pending.



Pedro Fernandez Lembach: poor health after torture

Spy scandal delays deal on high tech

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Official American and Greek delegations met here yesterday under strict secrecy to negotiate an agreement to protect US military technology made available to Greece from voluntary or involuntary leaks to the Soviet bloc.

The Defence Department is withholding clearance of the sale of 40 F16 fighter aircraft to Greece until the Greek Government signs the deal, known as GDSMIA, General Safety of Military Information Agreement.

Washington was said to be particularly anxious to safeguard the high technology incorporated in the plane's new radar system by Westinghouse, as well as recent upgrading of its instrumentation.

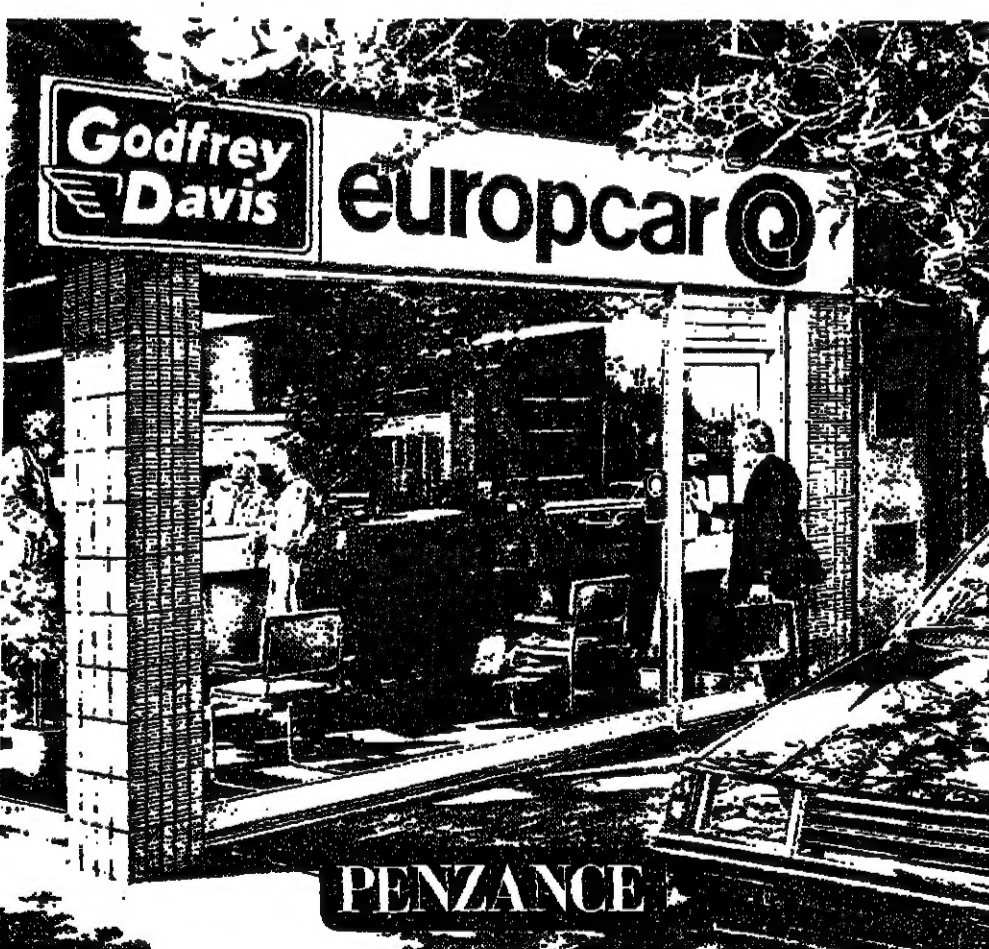
The Athens negotiations are being held against the embarrassing background of a multiple espionage scandal involving the alleged sale of defence secrets and Western technology to the Soviet Embassy here.

A Greek junior naval officer and two electronics experts charged with espionage in three separate cases, were apparently named by Mr Sergei Bokhan, a Soviet diplomat in Athens who defected to the US last May.

Western sources suggested that although the Greek Government appeared to be more co-operative in plugging these security leaks, its response had been too slow and so widely publicized that the whole operation may have been jeopardized.

The espionage scandal coincided with a crackdown by Greek security services on an alleged terrorist ring. The arrest of three men last week was described as an important breakthrough in the anti-terror drive.

The case had all the ingredients of tragedy when it was revealed that the main suspect, Mr Daniel Krystallis, accused of bomb outrages and political murders, had infiltrated the Greek central intelligence service (KYP) in 1976 and had served as a paid informer on terrorist activities for five different Greek security and information services.



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THE WORLDWIDE WELCOME

France faces a bill for millions

Lange demands a heavy price

From A Correspondent, Wellington

New Zealand will seek compensation from France amounting to millions of dollars, the Prime Minister, Mr David Lange, said yesterday after the admission that French secret agents sank the Rainbow Warrior.

Notice of the claim had been lodged with French authorities on September 6 and Mr Lange said it would include a sum to compensate Greenpeace for the loss of the ship. Final details of the total involved were still being worked on.

"I am talking millions," Mr Lange said, adding that he believed the admission of the French Prime Minister, M Laurent Fabius, that agents of the DCSE had carried out the attack also meant France would move towards a settlement of the claim.

Mr Lange described the affair as "a sordid case of state-backed international terrorism" and

summoned the French Ambassador to his office at noon. He later indicated he expected a formal apology from the French.

After a Cabinet meeting, Mr Lange took strong exception to M Fabius's statement that the agents had acted under orders and that it would be wrong to blame them for the July 10 attack on the ship in Auckland harbour. Such statements were "provocative and inflammatory" and not a defence.

Mr Lange said it implied that the three agents in hiding in France and wanted by New Zealand police would not be made available. The two agents held in New Zealand, Commander Alain Mafart and Captain Dominique Prieur, would go on trial on charges of murder, arson and conspiracy as scheduled on November 4.

The trial would go ahead "irrespective of whether the

other alleged perpetrators continue to receive the cover-up of the French Government."

Mr Lange noted that Fabius's statement had not revealed who ordered the sabotage of the ship, who funded it and at what political level that authorization had been given.

Greenpeace reported yesterday that its protest yacht, Vega, had anchored off the South Pacific nuclear testing site on Mururoa Atoll, closely shadowed by a French naval tug.

The Vega would await the arrival of the organization's flagship, Greenpeace France, which said it will use force against the protest boats if they breach the exclusion zone around the test site.

● CANBERRA: Australia demanded a full apology from France yesterday (Reuters reports).

"The Australian Government

expects the French Government to act within the bounds of international law and civilized conduct and to take account of world and regional opinion," the acting Foreign Minister, Mr Gareth Evans, said.

"At the very least a full apology by the French Government is now clearly called for." The statement is the strongest yet by the Canberra Government, which has been muted in its criticism.

Australia welcomed France's admission and "its undertaking, however belated, to conduct a thorough investigation of the whole affair."

Mr Evans said Australia remained appalled at the action. "Recalling Prime Minister Fabius's previous call for the perpetrators of the crime to be brought to justice, Australia looked forward to that occurring without delay or qualification."

Greenpeace may reject any out-of-court financial offer

By Richard Dowden

Greenpeace will try to press its advantage after the admission by France that its agents sank the Rainbow Warrior, and will demand that Britain formally condemn the French action.

It may also reject any financial offer of compensation for the sinking and the death of one of its members, preferring to pursue the French Government through the courts to gain greater publicity for its campaign against nuclear testing.

Mr Lloyd Cutler, the Greenpeace lawyer, said in Washington yesterday that the French admission of guilt may be a prelude to an attempt to make out-of-court settlements with New Zealand, Greenpeace and the dead man's family.

The admission "changes the entire situation," said Mr Cutler, a Washington-based international lawyer who has waived his fee for Greenpeace in this case.

"Now that the French have said that their agents did it, their legal responsibility and their moral responsibility is clear. They may now be willing to make payments without going through litigation."

The French would clearly like to avoid the embarrassment of further revelations and may want to secure the early release of the two agents, Commander Alain Mafart and Captain Dominique Prieur, who are in jail in New Zealand charged with murder.

Mr Cutler said the claims would be in millions of dollars and that the options for Greenpeace were to pursue the French Government through the French courts, pursue it in New Zealand or take it to the International Court of Justice at The Hague.

France does not recognize the international court and has refused to abide by its rulings, so Greenpeace may also take

the case to the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg. A Greenpeace spokesman said yesterday that no final decision had been made, but the compensation money was secondary to the campaign to stop nuclear testing. He said Greenpeace would be asking Britain for a specific and formal condemnation of France over the incident.

A Foreign Office spokesman said yesterday that Britain viewed "with the gravest concern" acts such as the sinking of the Rainbow Warrior wherever they may occur.

"We hope that the French authorities, having admitted responsibility, will act swiftly to compensate those who have suffered in this affair," he offered "appropriate diplomatic support" to Greenpeace if the organization asked for help.

Greenpeace has also requested a British inquiry into the sinking.

ment warning that the United States would review its obligations under the 44-year-old defence pact should Mr Lange's Government go ahead with legislation to enforce its anti-nuclear policy.

Mr Lange said after yesterday's Cabinet meeting that the legislation would be law by the middle of next year.

He said that New Zealand would welcome a review by the United States of the Anzus treaty, and that such a review could only be in New Zealand's interests.

Countdown to French confession

By Richard Dowden

France's admission that it ordered the sinking of the Rainbow Warrior came after months of bland refusal to comment on the incident.

July 22: Mr David Lange the New Zealand Prime Minister, says he knew who carried out the attack and why. It had political overtones but there was no evidence to link it with a foreign government.

August 6: New Zealand detectives arrive in Paris and ask to see particular secret service people, but France refuses New Zealand's request for an inquiry.

August 8: President Mitterrand writes to M Laurent Fabius, the French Prime Minister, asking him to set up an inquiry into French involvement and insisting that the guilty parties, however high up, should be punished. M Mitterrand also writes to Mr Lange promising co-operation with the New Zealand inquiry.

August 20: M Charles Hernu, the French Defence Minister, says he is not considering resigning over the affair.

August 26: The Triton report states "as far as my information goes at present... there was no official French responsibility".

August 27: Mr Lange rejected the Triton report and says France is "of course involved".

August 27: M Fabius says he condemns "the criminal attack".

September 15: M Mitterrand calls the affair "criminal, absurd and stupid".

September 20: M Hernu resigns.



Rescuers comforting a woman survivor in Mexico City as a crane lowers them to the ground. She had been trapped in a block of flats for more than 57 hours.

Praise for role of Britons in Mexico quake rescue work

By Our Foreign Staff

A British lecturer who escaped the Mexican earthquake unharmed last night described how other Britons had worked through the night to help rescue teams recover bodies from the rubble.

One group of students from Portsmouth Polytechnic is said to have worked with torches helping to locate buried survivors.

Others, led by Mr Nicholas Brown, a young British teacher at the Institute Anglo-Mexicano, set up a help-line collecting information from Britons and Mexicans wanting to get news to Britain that they and their families were safe.

Dr Charles Fosner, aged 43, a lecturer at London University's Institute of Education, who flew back to London at the weekend, said the British community "responded marvelously to the tragedy".

Dr Fosner, who was just getting up from bed when the first earthquake struck on Thursday morning, remembers looking out of the window of his

seventh floor flat and seeing "tower blocks of flats swaying around like flowers in the wind".

But the second earthquake on Friday evening was more alarming to those who survived the first, he said. "We thought we could not possibly be so lucky as to escape twice and that the second time would be the end."

Dr Fosner, who was in Mexico advising the Mexican education department for the British Council, was staying in the Coyocan district of the city, virtually untouched by the quakes. He said he would be lobbying the Government to send more aid to Mexico.

"While £500,000 is a first step, the extent of the tragedy there is enormous. I hope the Government will be making it clear that more aid will be made available in the term."

Three other Britons who escaped the earthquakes unharmed said last night they had gone on a sightseeing tour of the Mexican countryside after

the first quake struck, totally oblivious of the scale of the tragedy.

Mr Geoff Oliver, of Gravesend, Kent, a fitter with the Hello engineering company, was staying with his colleagues Mr Norman Morgan of Canterbury, Kent, and Mr Mark Oliver, also of Gravesend, in Mexico City after completing a contract for the Mexican Government to fit out army vehicles.

They were told by hotel staff not to be alarmed - that the quake was only a "tremor". So the three went on a coach tour in countryside to the north of the city and saw little damage, but after the second quake they went straight to the airport and caught a flight to Miami.

● Oxford aid: Oxford last night announced that it has made £250,000 from its catastrophe budget available to local staff in Mexico City to provide bedding, food, clothing and medical supplies for the injured and homeless.

Leading article, page 13

Crash jet engine lost all power

New York - One of the two engines on the DC9 airliner which crashed in Milwaukee last month lost all power during take-off (Trevor Fishlock writes). The second lost about a fifth of its power, according to investigators. All 31 people on board were killed.

The engines were versions of the Pratt and Whitney JT8D, the most widely used commercial jet in the world. An engine of the same type, though a different model, exploded on the British Airways Boeing 737 at Manchester in August.

Twin-engine airliners are built to be flown safely after the failure of one engine. Investigators of the Milwaukee crash believe that the 30 per cent loss of power in the DC9's left engine may be related to the total power loss in the right.

Airflow into the left engine may have been interrupted as the aircraft yawed after the right engine stopped; or a compressor may have failed as the left engine was pushed to full power. Investigators have yet to discover what happened.

Police accused of assault

Rouen (AFP) - A court here indicted 12 policemen on assault and moral charges brought by five youths after they were questioned about a robbery in this northern French town, court sources said.

The indictment ended a seven-month investigation into the incident last February when the youths, some of them Arabs, claimed they were subjected to "racist insults, violence and indecent behaviour, torture and barbaric acts" by police.

Argentine deal

New York - Israel is selling Argentina a Boeing 707 equipped with ship and aircraft tracking equipment, according to a Newsweek report. The deal was concluded before Britain's decision to sell fighter aircraft to Saudi Arabia.

£2m swindle

Johannesburg (Reuters) - Gert Rademeyer, aged 49, a former South African public servant, was sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment for swindling the state-run electricity corporation of more than £2 million.

Dowry murder

Delhi (Reuters) - The husband and mother-in-law of a young Indian woman were sentenced to life imprisonment for burning her to death in a dowry dispute.

Chernenko St

Moscow (AP) - A Moscow street has been renamed after the late party leader Konstantin Chernenko, who would have been 74 today. He died on March 10.

NZ defiant over nuclear ships law

From A Correspondent Wellington

The New Zealand Prime Minister, put an optimistic interpretation yesterday on United States intentions to review defence commitments to New Zealand legislation banning the entry of nuclear ships.

The Cabinet, yesterday considered what appears to be negative response from the US Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz, to a New Zealand initiative taken to Washington last week by the deputy Prime Minister, Mr Geoffrey Palmer,

in an attempt to begin healing relations.

Mr Shultz said that New Zealand proposals to respect the US right to refuse to disclose which ships carried nuclear weapons but instead to make its own assessment was unacceptable.

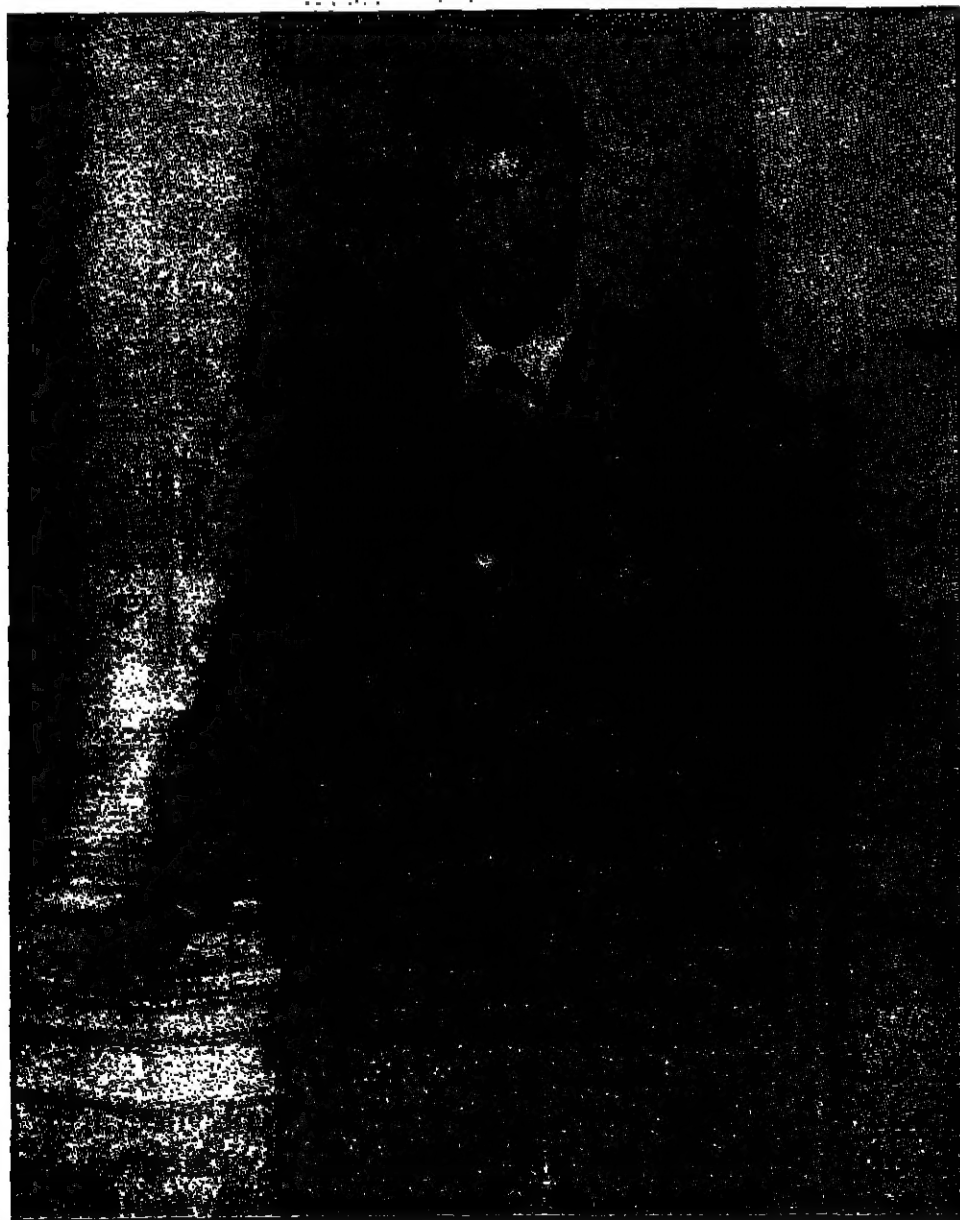
It would continue to compromise the US Navy's policy neither to confirm nor deny the presence of nuclear weapons aboard ships.

Mr Shultz's response was followed quickly in Washington on Friday by a State Depart-

ment warning that the United States would review its obligations under the 44-year-old defence pact should Mr Lange's Government go ahead with legislation to enforce its anti-nuclear policy.

He said that New Zealand would welcome a review by the United States of the Anzus treaty, and that such a review could only be in New Zealand's interests.

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Researcher 'defects' to East

From Frank Johnson Bonn

An espionage investigation has been started against a medical researcher at the University Clinic in Mainz, West Germany, who is believed to have defected to East Germany with his daughter, the federal prosecutor's office at Karlsruhe announced last night.

As in the case of the Willers - the secretary in Chancellor Kohl's office, and her husband, whose defection was revealed last week - the latest defector announced his act in a letter from East Germany.

The prosecutor's office spokesman, Herr Hans-Jürgen Forster, said that the man's home was being searched. He would not comment on any possible first results of the search.

The man was reported last night to have been deeply in debt. This suggested that the defection might have had a "personal" cause, as in the case of Hans Joachim Tiedge, the West German counter-espionage official who defected on August 19.

Pretoria faces uproar over resettlement

Uproar has greeted proposals announced yesterday by South Africa for the resettlement of some 42,000 people (Michael Hornsby writes from Johannesburg). They are predominantly African but also include mixed-blood, Coloureds and Indians and a few whites, as part of the "consolidation" of the Zulu tribal "homeland" of KwaZulu.

The proposal, which has been five years working its way through the government bureaucracy, comes at a time when Pretoria is seeking to project a reformist image. Earlier this year, the Government suspended all population removals pending completion of a review of future policy.

Earlier versions of the "consolidation" plan envisaged the removal of up to 500,000 people, but even in its scaled-down form it is certain to meet with fierce resistance.

Shultz tells Moscow to stop playing the propaganda game

From Zoriana Pysariwsky, New York

Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, yesterday appealed to the Soviet Union to take the issue of arms control from the propaganda arena to the bargaining table and allow the Reagan-Gorbachev summit in November to be held in a businesslike atmosphere.

Addressing the fortieth session of the United Nations General Assembly with an audience eager to see East-West relations define themselves, Mr Shultz made the opening move in the pre-summit political stagecraft which is expected to dominate this week. He said Soviet propaganda about the Star Wars programme was "blatantly one-sided and not to be taken seriously".

Behind the curtain which encloses Soviet society, Mr Shultz said, a strategic defence prospect had proceeded for decades. The Russians had the world's most active military space programme conducting about 100 launches last year, compared with a total of about 20 US launches.

"So let's get down to real business, with the seriousness the subject deserves," Mr Shultz

said, "and let us do so in the quiet of the negotiating room, where we can really make progress on narrowing our differences."

He will meet Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, his Soviet counterpart, tomorrow as part of the preparations for the summit. In what is clearly designed to embarrass the Americans, the Soviet Foreign Minister is expected today to present before the Assembly a proposal for the convening of an international conference to ban all space weapons.

In his speech Mr Shultz blamed a lack of Soviet responsiveness for slow progress at the nuclear and space arms talks in Geneva, but vowed American determination to reach an equitable agreement. He repeated President Reagan's assertion that strategic defence could lead to a safer world and gave no indication that the Administration would submit to Soviet insistence that its own cuts in offensive nuclear arms were dependent on the US agreeing to discuss a ban on all aspects of

Star Wars, except in theoretical research.

Mr Shultz clearly sought to counter the Soviet effort to put the US on the defensive. While trying to expose the Soviet campaign to court international public opinion for what it was, Mr Shultz hit hard at what he said were the inherent deficiencies of the communist world. Adventurism in Afghanistan, Cambodia and Angola was a breed of "new colonialism".

The Secretary of State concentrated on the ideological differences between East and West and spoke at length about what he termed "the democratic revolution" taking root in El Salvador and Guatemala which had eluded Nicaragua.

Referring to South Africa, he said the issue was not whether apartheid should be dismantled, but how and when. The outcome - race war or racial co-existence - depended on whether and how quickly the Botha Government could accept the new reality and on whether men and women of peace on both sides could seize the opportunity.

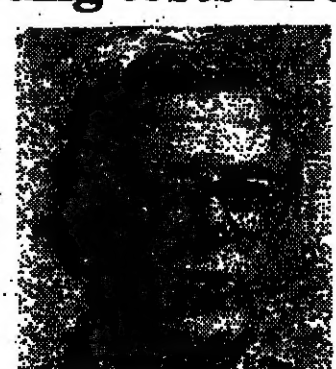
Howe meeting tests Kremlin mood

From Zoriana Pysariwsky New York

The state of Anglo-Soviet relations in the wake of two rounds of tie-for-tie expulsions was given its first test yesterday with a meeting between Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, and his Soviet counterpart, Mr Eduard Shevardnadze.

Although the meeting, held in the margins of the opening debate of the United Nations General Assembly, had been planned well in advance of the angry recriminations, it was a timely opportunity for Britain and the Soviet Union to gauge each other's mood and to see how quickly relations could return to a semblance of normalcy.

Sir Geoffrey said before the meeting that the issue "would not be ducked" in the interest of easing tensions, but official sources made clear that Britain was interested in pursuing an



Sir Geoffrey: Will not duck spy issue

Anglo-Soviet dialogue, despite the shadow of the spy affair.

This was the second meeting between Sir Geoffrey and Mr Shevardnadze, who met last month in Helsinki. British official sources said the Government never intended to cancel it and that there had been no signals from Moscow that it

intended to carry on its retaliation by cancelling talks.

Sir Geoffrey this week will take the opportunity to meet foreign ministers from a broad geographical and political cross section. Talks with Mr Yitzhak Shamir, of Israel, are likely to be one highlight after Mrs Thatcher's controversial invitation to a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

The next three weeks will witness the entrances and exits of more than 100 foreign ministers, who take advantage of the opening of the Assembly and diplomatic season to arrange dozens of bilateral meetings on international issues.

There will also be 10 heads of state and seven prime ministers in New York for the general debate, though the main concentration of world leaders will come during the third week of October, when the UN commemorates 40 years

JAVICO 1500

Pretoria seeks US help to rescue Unita from defeat in Angola

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

South Africa is believed to be seeking American backing for a military operation to relieve pressure on the hard-pressed Angolan insurgents of Dr Jonas Savimbi's Unita movement.

Two senior officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr Dave Stewart and Mr Les Manley, flew to Washington on Sunday night, reportedly with a brief to seek either direct US aid for Unita or support for any action South Africa may take, or is already taking, to assist Dr Savimbi.

The Unita leader has confirmed that his forces, said to number about 12,000, are engaged in fierce fighting with Angolan troops at Mavinga, about 130 miles inside Cuando Cubango province and only 120 miles north of his bush headquarters at Jamba, near the border with Namibia.

South African sources say the dramatic change in the balance of military power in Angola, where only a year ago Dr Savimbi seemed to be getting the upper hand, has been caused chiefly by the supply of new Soviet fighter aircraft to the Luanda Government.

In the past 18 months, the Angolans have received 23 MIG23s, 17 MIG21s and 10 SU22s, all fighter-bombers suitable for supporting ground attacks, and 25 Mi25 helicopter gunships, ideal for anti-guerrilla operations, the sources say.

Western diplomats here believe the South African figures are broadly correct, though there may be a tendency to exaggerate the strength of the Angolan Government's armaments to justify whatever counteraction Pretoria may be engaged in or contemplating.

Diplomats also say they have

reason to accept the truth of Angolan claims that South Africa's 32 Battalion, an elite commando unit used before in clandestine cross-border operations, has already gone into Angola to help Unita.

The week-long South African sweep about 300 miles to the west against guerrillas of the South West Africa People's Organization (Swapo), which ended on Sunday may have been a feint to divert attention from the Unita rescue operation.

Defeat for Unita would be disastrous for Pretoria, removing an important obstacle to Swapo infiltration from Angola into Namibia and possibly enabling the Luanda Government to send home the 30,000 Cuban troops on its soil, whose presence is the only pretext Pretoria has left for not granting independence to Namibia.

World union calm over Scargill rival

From Jonathan Brande, Brussels

The miners' International Federation, the 95-year-old rival to Mr Arthur Scargill's new militant International Mineworkers' Organization, has played down the importance of the new body, which held its inaugural conference last weekend.

Mr John Pickering, a spokes-

man for the federation, said: "We are still going to remain the most effective organization for mineworkers and getting things done. That applies to our work in education, in our support for the miners in South Africa and in terms of trade union work in general."

"There have been reports in

various newspapers that seemed to assume we would react badly. But the matter was discussed in 1983, before the National Union of Mineworkers left the Federation."

The NUM left after other affiliates of the federation tried to discipline it over its intention to set up a new organization.



Country music comes to the aid of the beleaguered American farmer in the shape of Johnny Cash and Waylon Jennings, performing at the Farm Aid concert.

Aid marathon nets \$10m

New York - Money rolled in yesterday after stars of country music and rock 'n' roll ended their marathon Farm Aid fund-raising concert to help thousands of American farmers on the brink of ruin (Trevor Fishlock writes).

More than \$10 million (\$7 million) was pledged by people telephoning the Farm Aid number from all over the U.S.

The organizers, headed by country star Willie Nelson, are hoping that sales of records and video tapes will bring the total to \$50 million over the next year. An audience of 80,000 in a football stadium at Champaign, Illinois, paid \$1.4 million to see the 14-hour concert, with such stars as Johnny Cash, Neil Young and Waylon Jennings.

No heir left in Springer mould

From Frank Johnson, Bonn

Like so many press barons, Axel Springer, who died from pneumonia on Sunday after a 15-day illness at the age of 73, leaves no heir in the same mould.

As a result of arrangements made only a few months ago, the Springer Concern - which has vast publishing interests, as well as *Bild Zeitung*, the largest-selling newspaper in either Europe or North America - will perhaps become a rather faceless corporation.

The surviving son, Raimund, an advertising salesman, is only 23, and was never intended to inherit his father's position. The preferred son - Axel Springer Jr, editor-in-chief of his father's Sunday paper, *Welt am Sonntag*, shot himself in 1980.

In what is taken as a sign that he believed death to be approaching, Springer put 49 per cent of his company's shares theoretically on the open market in May. The sale was carefully controlled to ensure that the firm remained in German hands.

Springer is said to have given up day-to-day involvement in company affairs in his later years, but his presence was always felt. *Bild Zeitung*, by remaining rumbustiously right-wing, continued to defy the disapproval of West Germany's intelligentsia.

Obituary, page 14

Zimbabwe's political foes reopen unity talks

From Jan Raath, Harare

Zimbabwe's ruling Zanu (PF) party of Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, and the Zapu opposition party of Mr Joshua Nkomo, are due to resume talks aimed at unity.

Mr Maurice Nyagumbo, who holds the position equivalent to secretary general in the powerful Zanu (PF). Politburo, said in a report published yesterday by the leading daily newspaper, *The Herald*, that Mr Mugabe had appointed a three-man committee to talk to Zapu.

The announcement comes in the midst of a series of vigorous anti-Zapu measures instituted by the police, seemingly backed fully by the Government. Last week, shortly after the detention of two more Zapu MPs, Mr Enos Nkala, the Minister of Home Affairs, said he would "wipe out" Zapu within the next few months and more detentions could be expected.

Questioned on this yesterday, Mr Nkomo said: "Well, I think the future of the country is more important than detentions. Never mind about statements. This (the talks) is what is happening."

No date has been set for the discussions, but Mr Nyagumbo said they would be held soon. Neither leader will be involved. The first set of unity talks ended in October 1983, with both parties claiming their differences were irreconcilable.

Economy's revival under threat Restive unions put social deal at risk

On Thursday President Julio Sanguinetti faced the first general strike against his six-month-old democratic Government by Uruguay's united labour union movement. The strike, called in support of a month-old walkout by the railway workers, was only the latest sign of growing labour unrest that could upset Señor Sanguinetti's ambitious plans to get the economy back on track, as Douglas Tweeddale reports in the second of this two-part series.

Uruguay's labour movement has reacted to democracy as if someone had suddenly lifted the lid off a pressure-cooker. In the six months since Señor Sanguinetti took the oath of office as Uruguay's first democratic leader in 12 years, there have been no fewer than 236 labour disputes, compared with only a handful in more than a decade of military rule.

The country's combined union movement, the PIT-CNT, has already called three general strikes in protest against the Government's economic policies, the same number as during the entire period of military government. (Thursday's strike was the first to be carried out: the other two were averted by last-minute negotiation.)

This effervescence of union protests is due in part to the novelty of democratic liberties which permit such activity. One member of President Sanguinetti's (moderate) Colorado Party said these liberties "have gone to the heads of some of the younger, inexperienced union leaders".

Another reason, administration officials admit, can be traced to the deplorable state of the economy left behind by the military, with real wages at a level nearly 50 per cent below 1968 levels. And some observers believe there is also a touch of political antagonism behind the wave of strikes. Most of the Uruguayan unions are controlled by leaders linked to extreme leftist political parties.

But whatever the reason, a growing number of Uruguayan leaders believe a solution must be found soon. If the labour unrest is not to derail President Sanguinetti's ambitious, but delicate, programme to get the economy moving again.

In recent weeks, administration officials say, they have scored a number of successes. After months of negotiation, the Government obtained approval for its non-recessionary economic adjustment plan from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) early in September. It also successfully con-

cluded a renegotiation of Uruguay's \$4.7 billion foreign debt.

Talks between Señor Sanguinetti's party and the main opposition parties have been moving towards one of the Government's main goals - a multi-party forum for a "social dialogue" in which all sides could agree on the sacrifices that must be made to overcome the country's worst economic recession since the 1930s.

Representatives of the traditional Blanco Party, the left-wing Frente Amplio coalition, and the tiny Civic Union have agreed on a tentative agenda for the "social dialogue". But Government spokesmen have said it cannot begin until the labour situation has calmed down.

The most immediate problem is the month-old railway workers' strike, which led to Thursday's general stoppage. At least one mediating effort by a member of the Colorado Party has failed, but both sides seemed optimistic the conflict would be resolved soon.

"Union tranquillity is perhaps the most important condition for the success of Sanguinetti's programme," said one Western diplomat, "because all these strikes and problems are scaring away the new foreign investment Uruguay needs so desperately."

The Sanguinetti formula for modest growth without inflation, while at the same time paying interest on the foreign debt, is based on attracting new foreign investment, boosting exports, and keeping government spending at 1984 levels.

A new budget, to be presented to Congress soon, shifts spending away from military and security items to housing, health and education; and diplomatic sources said Señor Sanguinetti plans to use changes in the tax structure to raise the living standard of the lower-paid.

The chances of sorting out the labour conflicts do not look too bad. Until now, the leaders of the political parties have been able to reach a consensus through an informal series of "summit meetings" and most observers believe they will be able to do so again.

Concluded

Hawke's identity cards will trip tax cheats

From Stephen Taylor, Sydney

Australia, regarded widely as a nation of rugged individualists, is to introduce compulsory identity cards in 1987. Public opinion polls point to acceptance, and no significant opposition has emerged.

The "Australian Card" is foreshadowed in the tax reform package announced last week by the Hawke government, though the idea has been debated for some time as an antidote to rampant tax evasion and dolo offences, estimated to cost between \$46 billion and \$47 billion (£3.35bn) annually in lost revenue.

In a last-minute watering down of the proposal before the full Parliamentary Labour Party gave its approval on Wednesday, it was decided that the card would not carry a photograph of the holder.

Advocates cite the case of the Sydney waiter who used 37 aliases to secure \$A242,000 in unemployment benefits. The Australia Card would stop such abuses, it is claimed, and would ultimately save the government about \$A540m a year.

Critics say, however, that not only is the card indefensible on grounds of principle, but that its effectiveness as a counter to tax evasion is exaggerated.

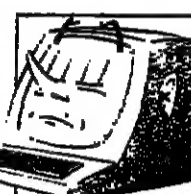
Justice Michael Kirby, a former New South Wales law reform commissioner, says: "Link the card to computers, and Big Brother will have his ultimate triumph in a way that Orwell and Kafka could scarcely have imagined."

The Government insists that it is aware of the risks, and that safeguards will be built in to legislation.

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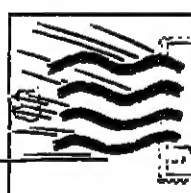
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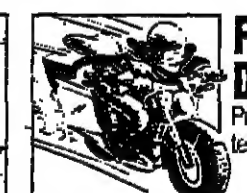
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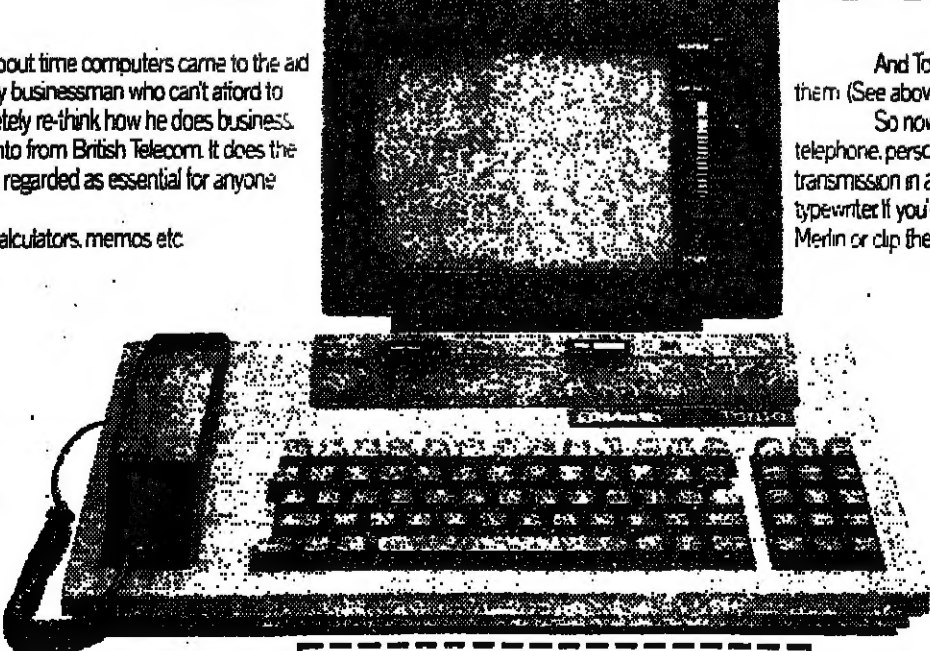
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Contemporary Art
Juda Rowan

In a week dominated by openings and anniversaries, pride of place must obviously go to the unveiling, after two years' work, of the newly expanded, refurbished and in every respect beautified Whitechapel Art Gallery, described by Jane Withers on the Spectrum page yesterday. It is no insult to say that the new splendour of the surroundings rather eclipses the actual art-works with which the gallery opens: a show of Howard Hodgkin's paintings 1972 to 1985, 30 of them, which gives a fair prospect, even if it does not quite constitute a retrospective – and a smaller show of recent ceramic sculptures by Jacqueline Poncelet. (The Hodgkin show runs until November 3, the Poncelet until October 6).

What the redevelopment has done, miraculously, is to leave the main body of the gallery feeling very much as it was, in detail whiter and more open (and, we are assured, at last adequately temperature- and humidity-controlled), while sneaking in, round the corner as it were, a new staircase from the lobby straight to the top floor, and on the other side a lecture theatre, a new restaurant, a group of smaller meeting-rooms, and a new small gallery up top. Within Harrison Townsend's imposing Art Nouveau facade, there was little detail that imperatively needed preserving – just a couple of art-sheds, in fact. This feeling has been retained, and the turn-of-the-century feeling brought into the interior in subtle ways, with white-painted doors with small squares of glass inserted, a little like Mackintosh or Hoffman, and small chequered patterns on the steps.

The art in these first shows comes off pretty well too. The Hodgkin show is the same as

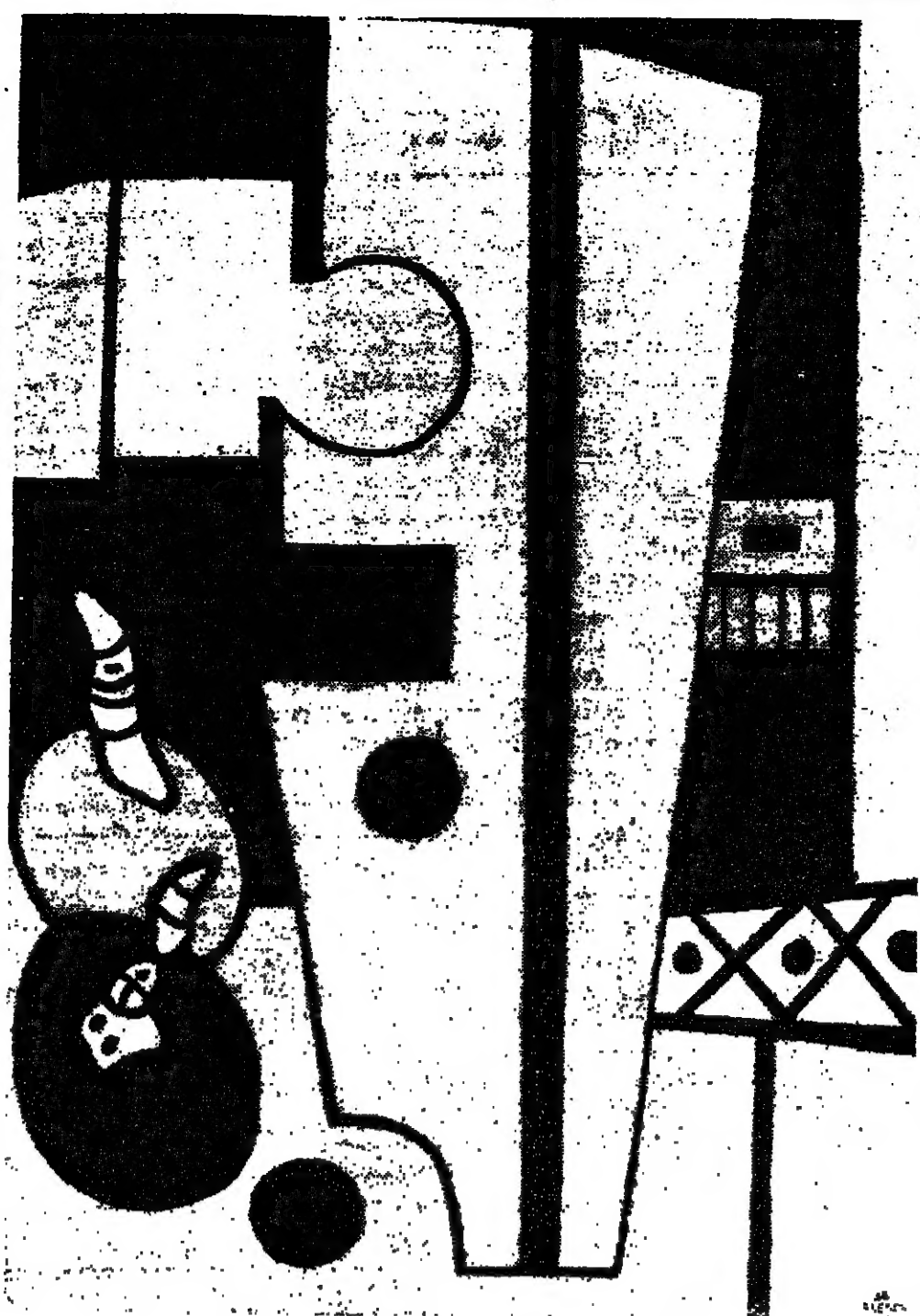
was seen in the British Pavilion of the Venice Biennale last year (and much admired), with the addition of another 10 pictures, not all of them new, to make up a suitable complement for both the lower and the upper galleries. This, of course, is a considerable amount of space, and it must be admitted that some of the smallest pictures, hung for some obscure reason downstairs, do look a little lost; even the bigger ones seem slightly strung out on the giant white walls. (Hodgkin himself would possibly have preferred them to be the particular shade of green he selected for Venice, but it would obviously have been asking a bit much of the gallery to have it sprayed this exotic shade just for the opening show.)

Upstairs, however, there is no doubt of the effect. It has been rather the habit to say of Hodgkin's work that it is decorative, implying "merely", but this succession of specific images (portraits, interiors, landscapes) gradually overlaid with coloured dots and washes of colour until the result becomes (though the painter denies it) quite abstract, has a kick and a sense of the tough reasonableness beneath the slight lyric grace. No one painting in Britain now has a richer, more voluptuous sense of colour, or a clearer idea of what he wants to do with it. Hodgkin is perhaps fundamentally the same kind of painter as Ivon Hichens, and, while one can understand his success in America, it remains a kind deeply embedded in the British grain.

While the Hodgkin show does not tell us much we did not know already, the Poncelet suggests a significant new development in her work. Up to very recently her ceramics, while far removed from any consideration of function, have still clung to the legal references of the vase, the flask, the platter. Now she cuts completely free, and makes instead curious organic-looking constructions that write on the floor or climb laboriously up the walls. The potter is becoming unmistakably the sculptor, and it is an exciting process to watch.

This little show is ideally suited to the space of the new small gallery. It is also the sort of show which, while the Whitechapel Gallery itself was closed, has been taking place in various locations, likely and unlikely, scattered round the borough. It is pleasing to see that the reopening of the major gallery has not meant the instant cessation of these fringe activities. Right next door, for instance, at the Whitechapel Library, there is until October 10 a very lively show devoted to works on paper by Miguel Fernandez, whose canvases I was noticing recently in the still-life show at Edward Tait.

Works on paper, often implies something small; here, though, most of the odd symbolic scenes with cryptic titles like *Blue Quiet on a Tree* or *Someone Knows of Our Meeting or Sleeping Days* are of quite modest proportions, there is also a large triptych,



Anniversary treasures revealed by Annelly Juda:
Léger's *Composition aux deux fruits* of 1938

Lost in the Deep, as well as a couple of other sizeable works. The themes, varied as they are, all have the same obsessive quality – nude men and women amid giant leaves, mysterious dreams and pursuits, which suggest at once details from the fantasy fiction of J. G. Ballard and the proto-Jungian images of Blake. What would Blake, or Yeats, have made for instance of the picture winningly (and precisely) entitled *A Big Baby with Two Golden Eggs*? It is a curious talent, but decidedly one to watch.

Moving away from the East End, I should at least mention that there is at the Tate Gallery until December 1 the most comprehensive showing yet of Howard Hodgkin's prints from 1977, when he began on his continuing series of colour aquatints, often with hand colouring added, as well as etchings and lithographs, which carry the painterly print to some of the limits of its possibilities and assume at times almost the same weight as his paintings. There is also, at Waddington until the end of the week, a small but choice show of Ivon Hichens' paintings – landscapes and nudes, all more or less abstracted in his characteristic style – which may be useful should you wish to check on Hodgkin's antecedents.

There are other new galleries opening. At the Imperial War Museum the section devoted to the First World War has been completely reorganized, taking visitors through the various stages of war on the Western Front, in the Middle Eastern desert, and at sea, with ample illustration of the role played by artists in the conflict (very fine Nashes – John and Paul – Roberts and others) and some wonderful works of unconscious art, such as the German dummy life observation post (a sort of arboreal Iron Maiden) and the British sniper's camouflage suit straight from science fiction. And until Sunday it all brings you out, appropriately enough, in the middle of Charles Sargent Jagger, a sculptural treat not to be missed.

As for the anniversaries, the most exciting is that marked by two shows at the Juda Rowan Gallery. Masterpieces of the Avantgarde, which runs until December 30, and the first of Three Decades of Contemporary Art, the Sixties, which runs until October 19, to be followed by the Seventies and the Eighties. The point of the beginning in the Sixties is that both of the new constituent galleries, Annelly Juda and the Rowan Gallery, began to operate then, and this is the twenty-

fifth anniversary of Annelly Juda's start in the business. The Sixties part features artists shown by both galleries at the time, and whenever possible works that they actually sold then. Robyn Denny and William Turnbull survive very well. Anthony Green was just embarking on his painted autobiography; and in the whatever-happened-to department one would be glad to hear more of Anthony Donaldson, Avinash Chandra, Klaus Friedberger and Patrick Scott.

I upstairs the continuing pre-occupation of Annelly Juda with the classics, particularly Constructivist, of early twentieth-century art is finely displayed with wonders of the kind one hardly expects to come on the market any more: a classic Léger of 1938, two of Malevich's early representational paintings (one of them reprinted in 1928 when the original was destroyed), an outstanding major Picasso, a splendid Goncharova *Baigneuse* of 1912, a monumentally simple 1948 Balthus. And so the catalogue goes on. It is a record difficult to match, an extraordinary mixture of business acumen and the loftiest personal taste. Long may it continue!

John Russell Taylor

Television

Delicate dramatic strengths

Dennis Potter's dramatization of Scott Fitzgerald's *Tender is the Night* (BBC 2) began with the meeting of Dick Diver, a young American psychiatrist in the heroic period of his life, and Nicole, a bewitching schizophrenic with whom he falls in love, at a Swiss sanatorium.

The version of the novel which was first published by Fitzgerald in 1934 introduced the couple after six years of marriage, as glamorous figures on the Riviera whose dark secret was held at bay by a life of frivolity and sensuous pursuit. Not until halfway through the book does the reader learn that Nicole's madness stemmed from an incestuous early relationship with her father.

The straightforward, chronological arrangement of the story was one which Fitzgerald

himself decided upon after the novel's failure; at his death in 1940 he had not completed a full revision of the text.

A love story beginning in a mental hospital inevitably has a darker tenor than one unfolding on a beach at the Côte d'Azur, but the early premonition of disaster undoubtedly strengthens the dramatic interest of the narrative. There is a tendency to judge Fitzgerald as much on his lifestyle as his literature, particularly with a work which is seen as partly autobiographical.

This opening episode was full of delicacy and beauty, with images subtly used and the majesty of the Swiss landscape always in the background. The sense of place and period was precise but never overpowering, and the crisp phrases with

which Fitzgerald crystallized his characters were tucked neatly into the dialogue.

Peter Strauss as the fatally attractive Dr Diver was perfectly cast and may well escape the fate of actors with classical good looks and be acknowledged for a fine performance at the end of this six-week run; as Nicole, Mary Steenburgen corresponded not at all to Fitzgerald's description of a Viking madonna, but projected appropriate allure without a trace of cuteness. Edward Asner, familiar as Lou Grant, contributed a robust cameo as the millionaire father overfond of his child. If the lighter aspects of the tragedy are handled with the same confidence as this blighted beginning *Tender is the Night* will be a memorable adaptation.

Celia Brayfield

Hilary Finch meets the Soviet pianist Andrei Gavrilov (right), whose Rachmaninov at the Festival Hall tonight is likely to be anything but routine

Full-frontal assault

Andrei Gavrilov is a man in a hurry. He is likely to run on to the Festival Hall stage tonight, gobble up Rachmaninov's Second Piano Concerto, and run off again. At 30 years old, he plays, and talks, as if time is running out.

It has a lot to do with the fact that he is still conscious of making up for lost time, for four years, in fact, from 1979 and Afghanistan onwards when he was unable to travel and play in the West. When the cold war was at its coldest, and all cultural agreements between East and West had been cancelled, Gavrilov decided to make his own detente. Last February he returned to the United Kingdom to make further recordings with EMI, with whom he has worked since 1976. In March, two days before his return appearance at the Festival Hall, he heard that the Soviet authorities had given him and his wife, Natasha, permission to extend their stay here. On top of his one-year extended visa, he was promised another two years, to fulfil his contract. Was it the first step towards asking for political asylum?

"No never! That would be terrible. My Ministry of Culture were very shocked and didn't understand at first. But then they realized I didn't want to make a political noise, that I just wanted to be free to play the piano everywhere. Doing my job best, travelling around as a Soviet citizen, I'm doing as good a job as I can. I go back in December for the Russian Winter Festival, but now I want to play 70 per cent of the time in the West – just to redress the balance."

Gavrilov's sense of urgency, almost of bravado, is apparent in his performing style, too. Like a pianist from an earlier, pre-recording era, flamboyant in wing collar, in entrance and exit, he plays his audience, like an actor, every bit as much as his piano. "I love my audience, yes! After all, music is the most immediately communicative art of all: it goes straight to the heart and then to the head (with the performer, though, it should be the other way round). You shouldn't carry anything for yourself; you should give it all to the audience."

This strategy of full-frontal assault dates from 1974 when, after winning the Tchaikovsky Competition, he was telegraphed to go to Salzburg where Vladimir Ashkenazy was ill and had just cancelled. "There was a scandal. The audience booed; they hated me. They hadn't come from all over the world to hear an 18-year-old boy, I felt so excited – so angry – that I played the programme of Scarlatti, Haydn, Mozart, and then just went on and played more and more and more – Rachmaninov, Prokofiev, the lot. It was childish and I wouldn't do it now, but it worked. At the end they went crazy and the police had to help me escape, like a pop star."

That was the beginning of his friendship with Richter. Richter, whose art collection includes Picassos and Chagalls, had always admired the paintings of Gavrilov's father, Vladimir; and the influence of the two men has obviously nourished Gavrilov's own culturally eclectic approach to his playing, particularly of Scriabin.

"Scriabin is a genius of such

high order that you simply have to be exceptionally well educated to understand what is going on. And that goes for the listener as much as for the performer. You have to be *ready* to play Scriabin. And there is an enormously wide field of reference to assimilate. Russian Expressionism in art: Kandinsky, Malevich, then our symbolist poets like Blok and Akhmatova. Think of the Sonata No 8, for instance: full of compressed ideas which break up and change all the time while remaining the same.

"It's like a crystal, a prism: when you turn it, it changes as fast and as complex as a kaleidoscope. To play it you have to know how it works and how Scriabin handles it. It's really for a very small circle of performers – and listeners."

Unlike Rachmaninov? "Yes. Scriabin is after all sick music, a form of decadence, which Rachmaninov is absolutely not. There, everything is so simple. You have to fight against the clichés which so quickly become a standard of playing. They make me very angry, very upset. All this stupid *ritardando* and *rubato*: it's lazy, it's wild, it's bad taste, and not at all Russian. It's very easy to have success with Rachmaninov – you can have a cliché a bar if you want to. But I'm going for different tempos, different proportions, the ones Rachmaninov wanted. You probably won't realize what concerto it is I'm playing."

● Influenza has obliged Giuseppe Sinopoli to withdraw from tonight's Philharmonia concert, which will now be conducted by Guido Ajmone-Marsan.



Oliver Boyes

Rock

The Pogues
Hammersmith Palais

The riotous rise of the Pogues from last year's novelty cult band to the ranks of the top 10 with their recent album *Rum, Sodomy & the Lash* may have taken some observers by surprise. But their irrepressible and irreverent approach has always produced an enthusiastic response at live performances.

In drawing on the wealth of melody inherent in traditional Celtic folk music and placing it in a modern urban setting they have achieved a curious crossover. Their single "Dirty Old Town" sits comfortably beside the work of Brendan Shine and the Fureys on the juke boxes of traditional Irish pubs in Kilburn, while their live audience, displaying the rowdy self-sufficiency of bonhomie of a friendly football crowd, belong to the young punk rockability generation.

Success may have distanced the band from their audience in so far as the familiar stage invasion which marked their earlier gigs was forestalled at the Palais by sturdy crash barriers. But from the moment the band took the stage and lurched into "The Sickbed of Cuchulainn" the crowd leapt into a carcen-

ing, body-slaming motion that swept back and forth across the jammed floor.

Shane MacGowan, the singer, best personifies the group. His spectacularly eroded teeth contribute to a comically gormless look: unshaven, boss-eyed, either shamelessly drunk or woefully hung-over, he sang in a rasping, bronchial brogue of endless inebriated relling and the death or dying of the old and the young through war, poverty and drink.

Despite the seemingly depressing subject-matter of the songs, the cocky, careless enthusiasm of the band was contagious. Although they have improved as musicians since their early days, they still resemble a bunch of hooligans giving an impromptu ceilidh rendering at the wrong end of a New Year's Eve party.

Applying the original punk maxims of brevity and breakneck eclecticism, the innocent rhythm of the cut-time jig and the basic instrumentation of tin whistle, accordion, harmonica, banjo and so forth became charged with a repetitive nagging energy. As the band played a long stretch of encores one wondered how much longer they can sustain such an entertaining portrait of self-abuse.

David Sinclair

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To say that this performance of Mahler's Symphony No. 3 gained in assurance as the music became softer is not to cast aspersions on the virility of the LSO's fortissimos. The opening movement – that vast, savage march in which the world is prised from the grip of winter – was by no means ineffective. The horn fanfare thrilled; the succeeding deep sonorities were calculated by Claudio Abbado with chilling effect: the trombones, dry and earthy, added much to the icy mood and the string tremolos had a diaphanous, eerie quality that matched Mahler's conception perfectly.

But one or two other experiments with timbre clearly did not work. The flutes, for instance, striving for a "white" expressionless quality, merely sounded untimely. Moreover, the triplet rhythms that sprawl ubiquitously throughout this movement were occasionally marred by untidy ensemble.

As Mahler progressed into his pantheistic calchism, however, so Abbado's ideas seemed more apt, and his balancing of this magically orchestrated score more certain. The minutest was lightly done and the scampering episodes kept very tight and neat. The scherzando initially preserved, this lightness, but here the episodes were bursting with roisterous fun, and the rhythms accentuated perkily. Here, too, was an almost perfect realization of the notoriously difficult offstage posthorn solo.

Its haunting quality set the mood for Jessye Norman's marvellous evocation of "the deep midnight". The part is really not for soprano, but few mezzos could match the creamy timbre of Norman's chest voice, nor her artistry at floating pianissimo notes with just

enough strength to penetrate the orchestral texture. It was a pity that members of this capacity audience could not clear their throats at more auspicious moments than during the lower strings' sepulchral unison opening to this movement.

What followed could not match the emotional intensity of the opening, but it had its own attractions. The Southend Boys' Choir and the women of the London Symphony Chorus sang their "bimms" and "bammms" with great gusto. Then came the finale, Mahler's first great adagio, which Abbado phrased with the utmost tenderness. The multi-layered strings at the opening seemed almost too serene, but then Abbado let the *subito pianissimo* and the ravishing chromaticisms of the violin-writing rise to a high level of passion, and the exhilaration was comfortably maintained through the bombast of the final pages.

Such a symphony is a concert in itself, yet this performance (which opened the autumn half of the LSO's "Mahler, Vienna and the Twentieth Century" Festival) had a curious preface: Berg's *Altenberg Lieder*. Jessye Norman's admirable control, as she descended from a *sotto voce* top A at the end, will stay in the memory. Nevertheless it felt strange to be drinking interval coffee just 15 minutes after the concert's start.

Richard Morrison

Bochmann Quartet
Purcell Room

William Alwyn died on September 10, just 10 days before this concert which had been planned as an eightieth birthday celebration; instead there was an inevitable undertone of sadness to the London premiere of his Third String Quartet,

completed early last year and itself a memorial to one of the composer's friends.

Alwyn's exceptional fluency and craftsmanship were most typically at the service of textures of distilled clarity (a perfect resource for string-quartet writing), but he was also capable of music of great force and even violence of expression. Both extremes were much in evidence in this remarkably powerful two-movement work, which integrated a startlingly wide range of ideas with undemonstrative mastery.

I found myself thinking of Schoenberg's First Quartet, or Zemlinsky's Second, but have no idea whether Alwyn liked such music. Possibly not; but he may have found himself converging on a similar expressive world, from a different direction, whether consciously or not. The fierce intensity of the gestures and harmony of the first movement certainly raise such comparisons, whereas the sustained elegy of the second related to much more familiarly English territory; even here, though, there was room for a brilliantly fugitive dance-like central section.

The Bochmann Quartet gave us a suitably impassioned interpretation of this memorable work. They had begun with a sturdy account of Haydn's Quartet, Op. 20 No. 4 (itself a little feast of invention), and David Willison later joined them for Elgar's Piano Quintet, mentioning that this had been Alwyn's own choice to round off the concert. Perhaps it was hardly surprising in the circumstances, but this wonderful piece cannot have had too many performances of quite this order – by turns fiery, exalted and uneasily contemplative as the music demanded. A moving experience.

Malcolm Hayes



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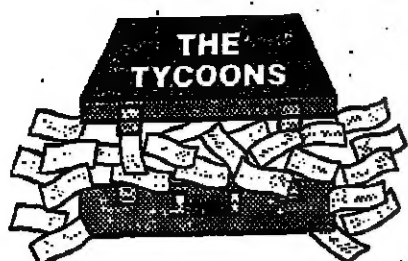
Punch

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SPECTRUM

French Connection: second in a three-part series on Britain's entrepreneurs

A label marked success



Stephen Marks took an independent route from rag trade to riches

with a clothes empire that

now spans the world.

William Kay reports

Stephen Marks floated his French Connection Group on the Stock Market in 1983 when he was 37 years old. Within a year the value of his shareholding had soared to more than £40 million.

In the fashion business, notorious for the speed at which fortunes can be made and lost, Marks is one of the new generation of top designers with staying power now pushing up behind Coco Chanel, Yves St Laurent, Pierre Cardin, Hardy Amies, and Mary Quant.

He is a bearded, burly man who has always preferred to do things his own way. From a modest launch back turning out women's coats and suits under his own name, he has put together a group which spans the world, designing for the French Connection label in London, making up the clothes in Turkey, India and Hong Kong and selling them in Paris, New York, Los Angeles and Tokyo as well as in Britain.

Yet it could have been very different. When Marks, who was born in 1946, left secondary modern school in Harrow, north London, his first thought was to become a world-class tennis player. "I was pretty good", he says. "I played for my county and at Junior Wimbledon, but I didn't have the dedication. It just wasn't in me."

It was not long before the pressure grew for 17-year-old Stephen to relegate tennis to a hobby. He admits: "I had to find a job. My pocket decided that I had always got on with people, talking to people was important to me. I went for a job with one of the big chains of women's clothes shops. One of the people doing the interviewing knew my father. He was in the women's coat business and asked me to work for him. I just drifted in. I worked there for six years. I made the tea, swept the floors, delivered the coats - you name it. It was great training, although it was purgatory at the time."

Sheraton, his first employer, taught Marks two things. It was among the first companies in Britain to use a computer and its administrative controls were excellent. But Marks felt it failed to follow through by co-ordinating marketing and product.

He explains: "The sales people said they couldn't sell the style, and the production people kept saying the design couldn't be made up. In the end all the clothes used to look the same."

"One time they asked me what I thought, so I said they all looked the same and they said 'Shut up, what do you know?' So I shut up. But it made me realize that clothes have to be designed well and have to look different if they are going to sell."

Marks was eventually made assistant sales director at Sheraton. After two years he was approached by the firm that had the UK licence for Louis Feraud, the French high fashion designer of women's suits, with the idea of launching a coat range for young women under the name Miss Feraud. It was another eye-opener.

He says: "The showroom was immaculate. It was fitted out in the latest style and looked a picture. Then they opened the door to the workshop, and it was like being back in the Stone Age: dingy, overcrowded and com-



pletely disorganized. They were making wonderful clothes, probably the most expensive clothes in England at that time, and they were using wire hangers for them and switching them on to wooden hangers when they were being delivered.

"I spent two years travelling the country selling Miss Feraud. I was doing 14 hours a day, six days a week. I was loving it, because I was doing everything and I knew what was going on."

But he was becoming increasingly conscious that he was working very hard for not very much in return. He brought matters to a head. "I said to the people running the firm, 'I'm doing half a dozen people's jobs and not getting paid enough for one. So they said you can be a director. I asked them, does that mean I get shares in the company? No, they told me. Does it mean I get more money? No. So I said in that case I do not want to be a director. I thought why not go out on my own?"

The youth cult of the Swinging Sixties was in full flow and he was brash and self-confident enough to follow the trend of personalizing the names of fashion firms. He simply stitched "Stephen Marks" into the clothes he sold.

"After my experience at Sheraton, I started with the idea that production was the most important thing", Marks says. "If it doesn't sell at retail, you ain't in business. You have got to have organization and you have got to deliver on time."

The Stephen Marks label soon became associated with smart and elegant suits at a price high enough to be affordable only by a fashionable minority. That meant he could build in a healthy profit margin, but volume was automatically restricted.

Marks recalls: "For the first six months I did not draw a penny from the business. In the first year we had £180,000 turnover and made £18,000 profit. But that first year seemed like ten years. I had borrowed £7,000 from the bank and £10,000 from Peter Collins (a fellow tennis fanatic then running his own successful dress company) to get started. But every month that I was owing money to the bank and to my best friend just made me depressed."

In the second year Marks doubled his profits to £36,000, enabling him to pay off his friend's loan.

Adapted from *Tycoons: where they came from and how they made it* by William Kay, published by Plunkett on Thursday, price £9.95.

"To be successful in England is comparatively easy. In America it is much more difficult"

Stephen Marks

Not long afterwards, Marks met Pierre D'Alby the Paris designer who had a faithful effect on his business. "I felt I needed a collection instead of just making 'one-off garments'", Marks explains. "So I went to Paris and met all the fashion companies there. That's where the name of our company came from. At first it was going to be French Connection, but then one day a friend suggested calling it French Connection after the film."

In the early days, the connection took the form of Marks selling D'Alby's clothes in London. It was to assume a more far-reaching form when D'Alby came back from a trip to Hong Kong in 1972 with a quarter of a million shirts. En route to Hong Kong for another consignment, Marks stopped off in India and found there were plenty of people who could be persuaded to make up dresses at low cost. Soon he was visiting India 14 times a year, to take advantage of the high volume and low costs the Indians could offer.

In 1973 the company had been asked to take space in the Oxford Street branch of Top Shop - an invitation that gave Marks the idea of opening his own retail outlets. He started in Walton Street, near Sloane Square, well-placed for the Sloane Ranger trade. Now he has 20 shops in Britain.

French Connection's American connection was another of Marks's unplanned moves. Just as D'Alby persuaded him to go east, he had to be talked into going west in 1976 by a persistent bundle of energy named Michael Axelrod. Such was the size of the US market and the determination of Axelrod that by the end of this year, Marks will have half a dozen shops in the United States.

The dramatic impact that the US has had on French Connection's sales has been matched by the way it has opened Marks's eyes to the gap between the European and American approaches to business.

He explains: "To be successful in England is comparatively easy. To be successful in America is much more

difficult. It's not just that the competition is tougher; they have much stronger ethical standards. If the delivery date is the 31st and you are only an hour late the order is cancelled. Then they come back and offer you half price."

What the Americans have learned from Marks is that design sells. He has always led his design team from the front. "I was in design from day one", he says. "I get inspiration from the things around me, from the streets, newspapers, a tablecloth."

"I was in a toilet in Delhi and hanging on a door was this glove for you to clean your shoes with. It was made of exactly the type of brushed cotton I was looking for. I went out into the local market, found out where it came from and placed the order."

Marks has almost from the start made a point of gathering talent around him. His chief designer is Nicole Farhi, who trained in Paris. She lives in London with Marks and they have a daughter. In 1985 the group opened the first shops under the Nicole Farhi name, selling clothes designed and chosen exclusively by her.

Further down the scale, the design team is constantly supplemented by freelancers who might come in for only one season. Marks regularly travels the best of the crop from the Royal College of Art for recruits, who can only gain from a spell at a leading house.

In 1981 Marks finally achieved his ambition of emulating his old employer, Sheraton, by installing a computer to control stocks and feed back management information. There were short-term adjustment problems but, by the time he went public, Marks was able to convince the City that these difficulties were past. Today, his company employs about 600 people, and is still small enough for Marks to exert a strong personal influence.

"I believe in dictatorship", he says. "If it's a day-to-day question, then the person running the French operation will make the decisions in France, whoever is running the retail side will make the decisions about retail, and so on. If it is something more long-term, then I deal with it. I think that too many cooks spoil the broth."

TOMORROW

The big men in travel, food and life insurance

On stage in Athens - and it's quite a performance

There is nothing that the Greeks like more than something with a Royal or a National in it when entertaining a cultural mission from abroad. Failing these, they will gladly settle for Shakespeare, particularly when he comes in classical garb.

Last week, with the visit of the National Theatre's *Coriolanus* to the Herod Atticus Theatre in Athens, they were able to boast two of these things: as well as a real English knight in the ample form of the company's director, Sir Peter Hall. They had flown out from London with 62 assorted actors and technicians to install their Olivier Theatre production for two nights in the open air, just a tribute to the yell from the Parthenon.

It was quite a performance - and I am thinking not just of the play but of the pilgrimage itself. For a start there was the Washington Symphony Orchestra playing at the theatre on the evening they arrived, which meant an ensuing night of utter chaos as the set-builders - always the poor bloody infantry in these operations - faced the task of building Rome in a day.

The designer John Bury had the idea of recreating as closely as possible the circular stage of the Olivier, together with two semi-circular sections of seating behind it, on which the audience doubled as plebeians.

Almost as the applause faded for the orchestra and the musicians left the stage, on came an army of theatrical construction workers, Athenians contracted for the job by a local impresario, Theodor Krita.

At eight the following morning, when the company arrived, the workers were still at it, welding, bolting, hammering away in the sunlight, with only a couple flaked out on the ground like the very first victims of Caius Martius's sword.

The auditorium is a hole punched in rock by a giant's fist

Even the most experienced of the NT players was reduced to an awed silence on entering the auditorium. The place has the effect, not of arousing comment, but of producing an intake of astonished breath. You could almost hear the company's collective gasp. It is a huge amphitheatre, a hole punched by a giant's fist into the rock beneath the Acropolis; 6,000 seats rearing up in row upon row with the steepness of a ladder towards the fantastic backdrop of the Parthenon and its brilliant Attic sky.

The look on the face of the leading actor Ian McKellen had the clear ring of despair. He had not had a good night. Ten hours earlier the cast had tumbled wearily - some blatantly - into a hotel bed described as economical, an Athenian Fawcett Towers where door knobs come away in your hand, lifts bang and growl in their shafts like monsters in the night, and the city's motorists treat you to a horn serenade at four in the morning.

There had been an air traffic controllers' strike in France delaying the flight for two hours, and now in Athens a three-day stoppage by the taxi drivers. The gods were clearly taking some sort of revenge on the National.

During the production McKellen had to bound triumphantly around the ramparts of the auditorium, but on that



Triumphant: Ian McKellen, undaunted by the problems

Thursday morning, with the pallor of a sleepless night on him, you might as well have asked him to sprint up a downward escalator.

Then there was the small problem of audibility. The place has a very fickle acoustic, and from up in the gods it was not always easy to catch Shakespeare's drift.

None of which seemed to worry Sir Peter unduly. He looked as relaxed as ever, directing rehearsals from his vantage point in Row 15. But then he did have the advantage of a microphone, as well as a sound night's sleep behind him in the rather ritzy Hotel Grande Bretagne.

McKellen wanted throat mikes for the actors; Hall said no. McKellen said being heard was the vital thing; Hall replied that pace was important too. It almost had the makings of a good old South Bank row.

And all the while, behind the scenes, the production manager Cass Jones and his staff worked on into the morning, looking quite as despairing in their own way as the lead.

The logistics of a visit like this are terrifying. The production's baggage list was seven closely typed pages, detailing some 250 arcane but essential items: one Lexicon Digital Reverb, seven Sonifex cart machines, one microphone (Freddie Treves), six Fix-blut, two containers dirt, one wig-drying cabinet, and so on down to the 30 bags of sand brought over to fill the hub of the stage (nothing but the best, you understand).

This says nothing of all the hidden dangers that haunt sound engineer Robert Barnard - particularly the terror of finding his tapes magnetized during the flight and wiped of their sound.

Then there is the long-suffering armorer John Wilkinson, forever having trouble at the customs with his stage pistols. And the police themselves, actually escorting the gun-toting actors from the dressing room door to the wings in case they should be mistaken for terrorists and fired at. This is a city as sensitive to violence as at almost any time since the Trojan War.

The whole thing cost more than £50,000; £35,000 of that

coming from the British Council, composed partly of proceeds from English language tuition for Greek students.

At last a break for lunch on the stroke of noon, just as the actors' shadows were disappearing beneath their feet, and off to the British Embassy. Our man in Athens, Jeremy Thomas, is a splendid example of his species, a sort of collaboration between Graham Greene and P. G. Wodehouse.

Richard Luce, our new arts minister, had a rough time on the NT tour, and he wasn't even there to defend himself. "Fancy him saying that subsidy makes the arts last", said Hall at one point with the utmost disdain. "I mean, the man must be a complete nurd."

Gun-toting actors might be mistaken for terrorists

By the following morning, Friday, things - and people - were in better shape at the Herod Atticus. For a start two booster mikes had been installed at the front of the stage and the consorts were starting to hit the back rows of the house. Second, McKellen had made his exit from Fawcett Towers and moved down the Towers and moved down the Towers. With a few misgivings probably, for he is a democratic sort of chap, and not much given to acting like Coriolanus in real life.

"With just a few hours to go the set had a solid look to it at last. Paraded on it were 120 newcomers, local actors and volunteers dragged from the English community for the crowd scenes."

When full, the tiers of stone suddenly turned into a wall of faces, and a peculiar quiet fell. Peculiar, because the police had closed the road outside to traffic and you could hear the lines as though you were back in the Olivier. Which, in a way, you were. So that had been the problem all along.

And the performance? A triumph, of course. What else did you expect?

Alan Franks

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An attack of conscience in the abattoir

COMMENT

The British take pride in their humane treatment of animals - including their humane destruction. But this has not always been so. The recent call by the government-appointed Farm Animal Welfare Council for an end to ritual slaughter within three years is the latest step in the struggle that has been waged since at least the early decades of this century.

Before humane slaughter became compulsory in the inter-war period, pigs, sheep and calves were killed by their carotid arteries cut while they were fully conscious. Cattle were luckier as they were stunned first by a blow from a pole-axe - an instrument like an axe but with a spike on the opposite side to the blade. The butcher aimed the spike between the animal's eyes. If he were an expert he could stun the animal with one blow; if not he might take several.

Before and after the First World War many cottages, smallholders and farmers kept a few pigs for their own consumption. The killing of pigs was something of a country ritual, nearly always taking place when there was an "r" in the month.

Many of these pigs were killed by a travelling pig killer. The animal was hauled on to a low bench called a hog board - some of which can still be seen in the countryside, often serving a more ornamental purpose - its throat was cut, frequently before anyone who happened to be about, and it took (I quote

from a butcher) about three minutes to die.

Pigs, whether killed like this in the open or in the orthodox butchers' slaughter houses, died noisily, unlike cattle and sheep. A number of people in those days were indifferent to the "squeaking" of pigs, to use the butchery slang term, and apart from a slight shudder they passed on their way regarding it as a necessary evil. But others were greatly disturbed by the cries of dying pigs. Public



opinion became more and more troubled by this cruel form of slaughter, gradually causing it to be abolished altogether. Alas, a good few years elapsed before that came about.

Greeners, the gunsmiths, perfected their first captive bolt pistol - or humane killer - in 1904, although one had been invented before that in Germany (the Germans predated Britain in humane slaughter legislation). These pistols fire a small metal rod into the animal's head, rendering it unconscious before the carotid arteries are severed.

But it was a long time before the humane killer was compulsory or universal. The meat trade and most butchers re-

sented the change, claiming that the meat was never as good or as healthy when the animal had been stunned, and particularly so in the case of bacon. As there was no government legislation, it was left to county councils to bring in by-laws.

This piecemeal effort made painfully slow progress. The struggle continued right through the 1920s and into the mid-1930s. An accountant told me recently that while doing his articles in 1928 he was sent to do the accounts of a city municipal slaughterhouse. No pre-stunning of pigs, sheep or calves took place.

As public hostility mounted in the 1930s, more and more councils implemented a humane slaughter policy, and an ever-increasing number of butchers' shops displayed notices saying that all animals had been humanely killed. Continental countries followed Britain's lead, but slowly. But for the heroic efforts of Brigitte Bardot (who conducted a one-woman campaign to implement humane slaughter), the French would be as backward in their methods as the Greeks and Spanish still are.

Now, after a series of Humane Slaughter Acts, pre-stunning before the animal's carotid arteries are severed is compulsory in the UK. There are two exceptions, Jews and Muslims can slaughter animals according to religious rituals which, they claim, prohibit pre-stunning. Jews and Muslims regard as unclean, and therefore do not eat, pigs.

Sheep, however, die quietly and cattle comparatively so.

These are the animals subjected to ritual slaughter and until an incident such as the ritual killing of a sheep by an Iranian diplomat in a street in Southampton, London, last year, which outraged many people, the public have little knowledge of what is happening.

With the growth in Britain's Muslim population, the amount of ritual slaughter has increased accordingly. Muslims, and particularly Jews, have steadfastly resisted the abolition of their method of slaughter: some rabbis even argue that their method is less cruel than our own. They are supported by the Council of Christians, Jews and others who argue that we must not offend religious susceptibilities.

These arguments just will not do. Modern slaughtering equipment stuns the animal electrically or renders it unconscious by gas. Neither method offends religious laws for the animal is not dead but unconscious.

"When in Rome do as the Romans do." The exceptions providing for ritual slaughter make a mockery of our humane slaughter legislation. We show more consideration for animals in this country than anywhere else in the world. This should be respected by other races who make their homes among us.

The recommendations of the Farm Animal Welfare Council should be implemented within the time suggested. No cowardly arguments for the continuation of the practice should be allowed to prevail.

Patrick H. Tyner

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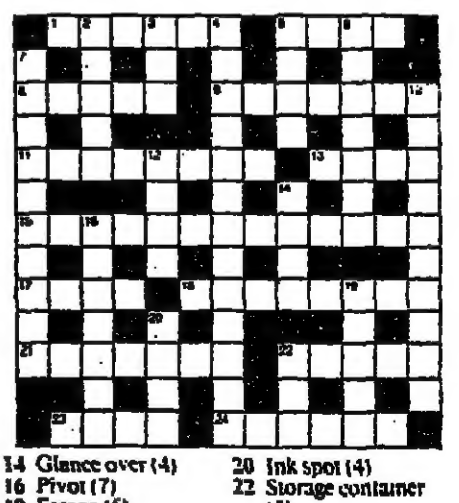
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Loneliness is just one problem

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FASHION by Suzy Menkes



Stitching up a rich tapestry

A flutter of russet leaves, stylized flowers, paisley prints and roocoo swirls all decorate the new high street knits.

The rich tapestry of pattern and texture created by hand-knitting has reached the mass market. Bold, big knits, teamed with tubular and ribbed bottom halves are a strong and cheery fashion story this autumn.

The same style climbs like a vine right the way through to high fashion with international designers and hand-knit companies producing their own magic carpets of stitches.

Those who prefer to take up the needles themselves are being treated to a harvest festival of patterns this autumn. Pride of place must go to Kaffe Fassett's designs, the ripe fruit of 20 years of working in stitch and colour. Fassett is a painter and weaver, and in *Glorious Knitting*, his new book, he has presented his rainbows of knitting as still lifes: designs of colour, all photographed against the objects that inspired them.

The result is a knitting book to drool over, as photographer Steve Lovi traps an abstract patterned sweater in shades of brown in a forest of autumn leaves or lays out a children's feast of sugared almonds and pastel country china that echoes

the designs of two little girl's sweaters. My favourites are dancers in broken stripe sweaters frozen in movement against striped Berber blankets, and a patchwork of diamond patterns beside the striped petals of an amaryllis plant.

Kaffe Fassett has always believed in free-range knits, where designs are drawn from nature or the imagination and expressed in yarn, rather than followed from a pattern. But he has managed to trap the instructions too among the butterfly images in his book.

Against this competition, other patterns look earthbound. But Katherine Hadley and Jane Procter had a bright idea with their *Celebrity Knitting*. This is a chance to knit your way to showbiz glamour by making cute Bonnie Langford's bunch of grapes sweater or trying your hand at Tim Pigott-Smith's alarmingly versatile linen sweater, with sleeves that unpopper in three places.

English style is the theme of *Good Housekeeping Knitting in Style*. Modern fashion styling (so rare among the regular yarn leaflets) and an emphasis on stitchcraft, offer some interesting ideas: the sideways cables that give the requisite square 1980s shape, a long-line double-breasted Fair Isle cardigan and a sharp version of traditional Nordic knitting.

The Design Centre's selection of *Smart Winter Knits* emphasizes the craft element in knitting but also shows fashion-conscious and commercial designs. Jean Muir's perfectly proportioned cashmeres and a cheery crew-neck sweater from Next are part of an overview of modern knitting by machine and hand. Most stunning are Artwork's intarsia printed carpet coat and Susan Duckworth's full-blown tea roses splashed on a dark ground.

Tapestry fabrics and jacquard weaves are an integral part of winter's fashion, where patterns stand out in relief to give an extra dimension to cloth. Sara Bowman has been collecting fabrics from the prolific Art

Deco period, ever since she unearthed the sumptuous beaded samples and design books of the defunct Parisian Maison Lallement.

A rose garden of beads worked for Paul Poiret in the 1920s, Raoul Dufy's graphic woodblock pattern of roses and flowers rampant on a clutch of exquisite evening bags all appear in Sara Bowman's *A Fashion for Extravagance*. This is a rich collection of the fabrics and prints of designers from the great Fortuny himself, including Sonia Delauney's geometric blocks.

It is further enriched by an exhibition at the gallery of Antique Costumes and Textiles where many of the materials in the book glow and come to life on the walls. Author Sara Bowman is right to see the exotic bags and accessories as a fine flowering of art and craft.

Glorious Knitting by Kaffe Fassett (Century Hutchinson £14.95)
Celebrity Knitting by Katherine Hadley and Jane Procter (W H Smith £4.95)
Good Housekeeping Knitting in Style (Pan Books £3.95)
Smart Winter Knits, The Design Centre, 28 Haymarket, SW1, until October 26, then Glasgow from November 23
A Fashion for Extravagance by Sara Bowman (Bell & Hyman £12.95)

The "Fashion for Extravagance" Exhibition is at the Gallery of Antique Costume and Textiles, 2 Church Street, NWS, until October 5



Photographs: NICK BRIGGS
Hair and make-up by CLIFFORD BRAKE at Michaeljohn

Centre: Tyrolean-style sweater with collar in navy blue and white, £21.99 from Miss Selfridge, Oxford Street, W1 and branches. Stretch denim ski-pants, £19.99 by Wrangler from selected branches of Dorothy Perkins and Debenhams. Black and white spiral earrings, £11.95 from Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge, SW1

Top left: swirl patterned sweater in blue and black, £15.99 by Jeffrey Rogers from Bentalls of Kingston and branches of Owen and Owen. Black wool skirt, £28.50 by Ricardo Bini at Liberty's, Regent Street, W1. Grey ribbed tights, £4.99 by Dim from Harvey Nichols. Black Palladium plimsolls, black earrings, £28.75 from Design Gap, Unit 38, Hyper-Hyper, W8

*Above: bold floral print sweater in bright orange and bottle green, £46.90. Pure wool ribbed leggings, £28.90 in orange, yellow, purple, fuchsia and pale pink, both from Benetton. Rubber link earrings, £7 from Design Gap, Unit 38, Hyper-Hyper. Pixie boots in orange, red, purple, £32.50 from Whistle, 12-14 St Christopher's Place, W1

Far left: chenille roll-neck sweater with contrasting red, blue and beige sleeves, £168, matching red skirt, £73.50 both by Sportmax at Soho, 24 Gloucester Road, SW7; Matches, Wimbledon; Valentine, Stanmore; Madeleine Anne, Solihull and Stourbridge. Beige ribbed tights, £4.99 by Dim at Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge, SW1. Earrings, £28.75 from Unit 38, Hyper-Hyper

Left: tapestry pattern sweater in purple, ochre, black, £88. Matching skirt with roll-down ribbed waist, £54, both by Ricardo Bini at Liberty's, Regent Street, W1. Purple tights by Pretty Polly, £1.10 from major department stores. Blue shoes with tapestry insets, £49.99 from Russell and Bromley, 24 New Bond Street and branches. Collar, necklace, £21.75, bracelet, £12, both from Hyper-Hyper, W8

OPENINGS

● A motley selection of people gathered for the opening party of Zone, created from the old basement at Harvey Nichols as a labyrinth of fashion ideas.

The launch was held in conjunction with *The Face* magazine, and weird and wonderful creations swanned about the polished slate floor.

An early evening fashion show was held for the grown-ups who would probably feel more at home in the sophisticated atmosphere of the cosmetic counters and designer names a floor or two above. But those with the stamina witnessed a midnight parade of the brightest young autumn and winter fashions. Models swayed and skipped, laden with jewel coloured panne velvet, carpet fabric, tapestry coats and silky pyjama suits.

Among familiar favourites such as In-Wear and French Connection are less familiar names, such as Studio F with some stylish separates; chunky Arran sweaters and padded coats in green and purple.

● Mariuccia Mandelli grinned beneath her fringe as she surveyed her new London empire. The designer who brings out the best in sweaters has even produced a caddy leopard on a snow white jumper for a three-year-old in her Kristie Baby range. Grown-up animal lovers at last week's opening party included a clutch of glamorous Italianas, tossing manes of marmalade hair. The glossy Brook Street shop had the same effect in orange fur.

Rebecca Tyrrel

Angela Gore



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skirt - Lindsay (burgundy, navy, etc.) OR MacKellar (olive, brown, etc.) OR Black Watch (navy, green, etc.) Elasticated waist, self belt - length 29" with two inch hem and fully lined polyester tulle. Velvet corduroy jacket in burgundy OR navy OR olive green OR brown. Length 28" - self belt. With machine wash 50% polyester, 50% cotton. Made in our Kent workshops - delivery from stock or up to 28 days and refunded if unsuitable. 10/34 bust, 24 waist, 36 hip, 12/36b, 26w, 38h, 14/38a, 28w, 40h, 16/40b, 20w, 42h, 1 and 18/42b, 22w, 44h, 1. Jacket £48.00 - Skirt £36.00

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THE TIMES DIARY

Unesco fiasco

A government source has leaked to me the controversial findings, expected to be announced today, of the Foreign Affairs Select Committee's investigation into Britain's relationship with Unesco. Mrs Thatcher will not be amused. The Tory-dominated committee, led by Sir Anthony Kershaw, unanimously concludes that Britain should remain a member of the UN cultural organization, even though America has already left, and work for reforms from within. This flies in the face of Mrs Thatcher's stand that Britain should withdraw unless it reduces its spending and abandons its anti-western policies. However, the committee's report is highly critical of the government, and points out that it is wholly undiplomatic to demand something and cap it with a threat.

Pact off?

My money for the Labour Party's new communications and media, supremo - expected to be announced later today - is on Ken Livingstone's aide, Nita Clarke. David Gow of *The Scotsman*, a strong contender, dropped out at the last minute. Still hotly tipped is London Weekend Television producer Peter Mandelson, but his domestic set-up may not be entirely to the liking of Labour's NEC members. He shares his home in Clapham with David Owen's press secretary, Sue Robertson.

Church militant

Even in church Labour tries to present a balanced ticket. For its eve of conference service in Bournemouth this weekend it has picked Neil Kinnock and his hard left critic, Neil Heffer, to read the lessons. Heffer is apparently pleading with Lord Soper, the organizer, to let him take as his theme the Sermon on the Mount, which he regards as "more revolutionary than the Communist Manifesto".

Numbers game

Winning today's bottle of champagne in our quest for tales about the pre-famous is Valerie Grosvenor Nyer of Ely, Cambridgeshire. "I was known maths prodigy," Ruth Lawrence all her life. At seven, just like all little girls, she played with her dolls. I remember seeing her line them all up on the side of her bed; she then proceeded to give them a lesson in trigonometry.

Inglorious

No happy ending to Gloria Vanderbilt's visit to London to promote her much-slated autobiographical "fairytale story". On Friday she cancelled a US embassy lunch in her honour, called off her TV and press interviews and is refusing to see the *Manchester Evening News* at Clarendon today. Chato, her publisher, says wearily: "She's obviously used to getting her own way."

BARRY FANTONI



... and the bombe surprise
a la Fabius

Imagine...

Michael Heseltine is either extremely vain or he has a well concealed sense of humour. According to Peter Fluck and Roger Law, the brains behind the *Spitting Image* TV series, Heseltine has tried the hardest of all victims to buy his puppet caricature. After receiving repeated calls from the staff at the MoD, Law one day snapped: "Tell him if he sends cruise back he can have it for nothing." The line has since gone dead. Sir Kenneth Newman, commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, is much amused by his puppet - "but could you tell them I never wear my helmet when lecturing." Too horrified to watch, on the other hand, is Leon Brittan. "But he always knows when he's on," says a friend. "He can hear his children rolling around the sitting room carpet in uncontrolled giggles."

Example

PC David Kitcher, stationed at Dulwich in south London, was delighted with the neighbourhood watch scheme on his beat. Over the months he had marked all the residents' bicycles and each house sports a neighbourhood watch sticker. Thanks to him the crime figures for Dulwich village have dropped. All bunkydory, in fact, until the other day. PC Kitcher had just finished offering his usual tips on crime prevention to one of the neighbourhood watch officials when he found his bicycle, a 10-speed Puch, had been stolen. Had he padlocked it? "Not as such." Surely he had marked it? "Er, not as such..."

PHS

Closing ranks round the warriors

Heads may have rolled but Diana Geddes finds wide-ranging support for the French security services over the Greenpeace affair

Paris The fact that press investigations have unearthed a political scandal involving secret agents, "dirty tricks" and attempted cover-ups has led some to liken the Greenpeace affair to Watergate. But France is not America. It has a different conception of the individual citizen's right to know, a different attitude to the overriding national interest. The whole truth about the sinking of the Rainbow Warrior is therefore unlikely ever to emerge.

Admiral Pierre Lacoste was sacked last Friday as head of the foreign intelligence service after refusing to answer specific questions put to him by Charles Hernu, then defence minister and as such the man to whom Lacoste was directly responsible. In Britain there would be a public outcry over such gross disobedience by a civil servant toward his democratically elected boss. In France, hardly a murmur.

In a letter explaining the reasons for his refusal - the contents have been duly leaked to the press - Lacoste said he wanted to protect military personnel who had carried out, or were still carrying out, dangerous missions.

Many French people feel that Lacoste was right to take that decision. Jacques Toubon, secretary-general of the Gaullist RPR party, said: "certain circumstances, the protection of those who fight, even in danger of their lives, to defend our country may lead those who are their chiefs to protect them and to refuse to give them up."

Jean Rochet, former head of the Direction de la Surveillance du Territoire (DST), the French counter-espionage agency, congratulated Lacoste on his stand: "He refused to give the names of these soldiers because he did not want the government, in an attempt to get out of a difficult situation, to treat them as scapegoats. I would have acted as he did. He is a real chief."

Someone within the defence

ministry evidently holds the same view, for vital elements in the secret service Greenpeace dossier are now reported to have been deliberately destroyed.

One of the few dissident notes was struck by Claude Estier, Socialist president of the National Assembly's foreign affairs committee. To allow a civil servant to take it upon himself to decide what was in the national interest, rather than to defer to the elected representatives of the people, would open the way to a state within a state, he said.

But even the Socialists accept that the military must be protected to a certain degree. Laurent Fabius, the prime minister, cited Lacoste's refusal to answer Hernu as the main reason for his dismissal. In his statement on Sunday night he nevertheless insisted that those agents who had carried out the attack on the Rainbow Warrior should not be prosecuted, "because it would be unacceptable to expose military personnel who have simply obeyed orders." There was no mention of his earlier promise that anyone found guilty of criminal acts

in the affair would be brought before the courts.

Even Paul Quilès, the new defence minister, who was responsible for officially revealing the direct responsibility of French secret agents in the attack on the Greenpeace boat, is now defending the armed forces, denouncing the "multiple and insidious campaigns" being conducted against them. "I will not allow any attack of any kind against the honour of our armed forces," he said yesterday in the traditional message on taking office.

The "national interest" and pride in the honour and image of their country hold much greater sway over the French than over the British. The French seem willing to accept dubious or even outright illegal acts carried out in the name of their country in a way that many British would not. The earlier comments by former president Giscard d'Estaing on possible French involvement in the Greenpeace affair was revealing: "It is my country, right or wrong," he insisted. Many agreed with him, although



Lacoste refused to answer questions Fabius: back-tracking on prosecution pledge Quilès: 'no attacks on armed forces'

Bernard Levin: the way we live now

Berlin: we are all leafy suburbanites now



important to the free world than that Berlin should remain free." In saying that, he echoed the words he had used more than 10 years earlier, when the blockade began: "When Berlin falls, West Germany will be next. If we mean to hold Europe against Communism we must not budge... I believe that the future of democracy requires us to stay."

Hang on to those words; they will become relevant when I get to the point. So, even more, will the words used at the anniversary ceremony by Willy Brandt, then Burgomaster of West Berlin, addressing the western allies - America, Britain and France - who saved the city. "We stand in your debt," he said: "you must know that we have not forgotten it and will never forget."

The bells of history sounded for me recently, when I read Henry Stanhope's dispatch from Berlin: the name of Gatow sprang from the page to set them ringing. Gatow, the smallest of the three airfields used in the salvation of West Berlin, is now an RAF firing-range; there is further irony in the fact that, as the report pointed out, it lies near the Berlin Wall. And it is in the news at the moment because - well, let Henry take up the story.

Angry West Berliners who claim that their peace and prosperity are being shattered... are preparing to take their

case to the European Court of Human Rights... About 800 people who live near the airfield in a leafy West Berlin suburb are objecting to the noise and other environmental pollution from the range... while politicians in West Germany have already begun to echo their plea... Herr Reimer Geulen, a Berlin lawyer... says that... the dispute... has badly affected the value of the £120,000 houses in an upper-middle class estate.

And now I think I have come to the point at last. There are several morals to this story (one of them is "never underestimate the greed, selfishness and treachery that the rich are capable of"), but the most important is also the most obvious. We have come a long way in the quarter of a century that has elapsed since General Clay said that "No principle is more important to the free world than that Berlin should remain free." and Willy Brandt assured the West that Berlin would never forget. Clay died in 1978, but I do not suppose he abandoned his view of Berlin, even on his deathbed. Herr Brandt is still alive; how stands he, in relation to his words on the same occasion?

I imagine he, too, holds to his former view. If so, would he mind nipping over to the "leafy West Berlin suburb" of Gatow and suggesting to the inhabitants that there are worse things than finding

that did not stop them vigorously attacking individual politicians.

The French attitude toward morality in political life is also different. To hide the truth or to tell outright lies in the supposedly higher interests of the state is not something that always shocks. There is not the same demand for the individual citizen's "right to know". The French seem to accept that their leaders often know best.

Fabius has announced the establishment of an all-party parliamentary committee of inquiry. It might be expected that this committee, like the Senate Watergate committee, will seek to ensure that the whole truth is revealed. But French committees of inquiry do not have the same powers as American investigative committees, particularly where security matters are concerned.

The law states that all information likely to facilitate the inquiries of such a committee must be provided, but then promptly excludes any information of a secret nature concerning national defence, foreign affairs, or the internal or external security of the state - precisely the area into which the Greenpeace affair falls.

Furthermore, the committee may not begin its inquiries while judicial proceedings are pending or in progress. The trial of the so-called Turenne couple, the two French secret agents being held in New Zealand on charges of murder and arson, is not due to begin until November 4. Other trials may conceivably follow in France.

So the committee is unlikely to be able to begin its work for some time, and even when it does, its powers will be severely limited. But then it is in the French tradition that their major political scandals are left unsolved. Ben Barko, the Breznev affair, the Bokassa diamonds, etc. Is Greenpeace destined to be added to that list, "in the national interest"?

that the value of your house is depreciating because the RAF needs to practise saving you?

It is not very pleasant to live next to a firing-range, as, oddly enough, I am in a position to know. When was this? During the Second World War, I lived for a time in a house on the edge of Primrose Hill. On that grassy knoll there was an anti-aircraft battery, and on Blitz nights it fired every few seconds, with a bang that each time not only knocked a good deal off the value of the premises but very nearly brought the premises to the ground. It was a long time ago, and my memories are hazy, but I do have a distinct recollection that neither I nor anybody else in the family felt that the guns should be silenced, let alone that we should go to court for an injunction to silence them. On the contrary, I am sure that we were wholeheartedly on the side of the gunners, and no less fervently opposed to those whom the gunners were trying - heedless of what they might be doing to property values or the environment - to shoot down.

What is the German for *nos avons changez tous cela*? I think it is *Schweineerei*, at any rate in this matter. Do the inhabitants of Gatow's leafy suburb ever pass by the Airlift Memorial? If they do, do they have no idea of what the third of its ribs refers to? Come to that, do they even notice the Berlin Wall itself? Would they prefer to live on the other side of it, and if not why not? And do they suppose that if they did live in the same state of helter-skelter as their fellow-Germans from the dark side of the moon they would be able to take their government to court to protect the value of their houses? Or that they could induce a judge to order their government to give up its military activities?

We can ask some even dafter questions. Do the Gatowians think that, moving among the people on the other side of the Wall, Henry Stanhope would be able to report that politicians... have already begun to echo their plea for human rights? Or that a Berlin lawyer is representing the protesters and dismisses any suggestion that the residents are trying to bring a test case against the legality of the... government...?

One solution to this problem would be for the commanding officer at RAF Gatow to make a frightful mistake one morning and absent-mindedly order a massive prang ("Oh, I say, I'm most terribly sorry") on the £120,000 houses of Gatow instead of the firing-range. Perhaps that is too extreme a method of making the point. If so, let him order a fatigue-squad to paint, on the western side of the Berlin Wall, Goethe's words: "Poetry sessions lost, something lost; Honours lost, much lost; Courage lost, everything lost." Better still, let him have the words painted on the base of the Airlift Memorial.

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Islanders up in arms against Whitehall

The Channel Islands could be heading for a confrontation with Whitehall over a request that they start contributing towards the cost of their defence. After a 12-month study, parliamentary committees in Guernsey and Jersey are due to report to their respective legislatures within the next few weeks. But a packed public meeting in Guernsey has already voted by seven-to-one against what became of the £5 million they donated during the Falklands war, supposedly to build a new jetty at Port Stanley.

Both islands can point to royal charters dating back at least to Elizabeth I which have enshrined their right to self-government in all matters, but defence and foreign policy. Islanders with a keen sense of history are fond of pointing out that, as an ancient possession, it was they who conquered Britain in 1066, not the other way round.

One sign of their special status is the fact that, to prevent their

potatoes and tomatoes being squeezed out of the British market by continental competition, they are not full members of the EEC.

The idea that they should help pay for defence is not new. After the First World War Jersey gave £400,000 and Guernsey £220,000 towards the pensions of Channel Island ex-servicemen. One-off payments were also made in 1952.

What worries them now is the suggestion that payments should be annual, that what might start as a voluntary goodwill gesture would soon become an obligation, going up each year to allow for inflation. Instead of a grateful letter of thanks, they would receive an impatient reminder from the Treasury that their annual payment was overdue. They see this as having serious implications for their constitutional rights.

During the Napoleonic wars the 70-odd guns of Guernsey's Castle Cornet ranged over French men-o-war leaving St Malo or Cherbourg, and so helped protect Britain against

a seaborne invasion. Today their strategic value is minimal.

Indeed, those opposed to any surrender to Whitehall pressure say there is little point in the islands contributing towards their own defence because they are more or less indefensible - as was tacitly acknowledged in 1940 when all military forces were withdrawn before the German advance across northern France. Moreover, they add, Britain derives some spin-off from defence spending in terms of jobs and export earnings; Guernsey and Jersey would be handing over hard-earned money that would simply be swallowed by the Treasury.

Not everyone agrees. A "loyalist" lobby says the islands have a responsibility to protect their peace and freedom through active support for Nato; there has even been a suggestion that any contribution should be paid to Nato direct. It is also argued that a defence contribution would help maintain good relations with Britain. Although Whitehall has assured the islands

that a "no" would not lead to punitive action, there is a suspicion that an aggrieved government might start levying a charge on the islands for specific services rendered by the Foreign Office or Ministry of Defence.

Most islanders expect a compromise: no annual payments, but finance for a specific project. The most popular idea at present is to buy another fishery protection vessel for the Royal Navy and possibly to maintain it. (Two of the boats in the navy's offshore patrol fleet are already called HMS Jersey and Guernsey.)

Other suggestions: financing a helicopter search and rescue squadron to be based in Guernsey or a special detachment of the Royal Naval Reserve, or funding the pensions of islanders who serve in the British forces.

Whether that is the kind of response which the Home Office is seeking has yet to be seen.

Henry Stanhope

Digby Anderson

Can Labour slim its wasteline?

Is Labour's noisy, self-proclaimed commitment to the needy, the young and the sick genuine? The party conference next week at Bournemouth will be one test.

When Jasmine Beckford died while under the supervision of social workers, a senior member of the social services pointed out that whatever was done to improve the training and efficiency of social workers, such cases would recur. There was a limit to what social workers could do. The risk of child abuse could never be reduced to zero.

Sensible words, obviously, but with an implication that the speaker might be reluctant to accept that there is a point at which further public spending on this type of social work is not worthwhile.

Recently the National Association of Head Teachers "enthusiastically endorsed the concept of a four-term year" and a working party of the Association of County Councils recommended a similar arrangement: in its case, four 10-week terms giving 10 days more holiday than at present.

Elsewhere it was stated that 10 days less school a year would not hurt children's education. Evidence from European countries which have shorter school years suggested that, beyond a certain number, extra days in school have little or no effect. It was not put quite like this: more that the level of educational achievement in such countries was as good as, or better than, that of England and Wales.

There are, at first sight, dangerous implications for teachers here, not least that the taxpayer appears currently to be paying them for 10 days work that does no educational good. Perhaps Sir Keith, anxious to make savings, should look into it.

And how does the sympathy the proposals aroused among some teachers fit the regular protestations from teacher unions that the school year is full to the brim, the curriculum already overworked and that on no account can teachers be expected to undertake more work, for example on the new 16-plus General Certificate of Secondary Education, without more resources.

Now it appears there are resources to spare. To be specific 10 (days) times 6 (teacher hours per day) times 450,000 (teachers), a total of 27 million wasted teacher hours. The cost to the taxpayer of these useless hours is perhaps £125 million each year.

The matter, of course, much more complex than this, as the teacher unions are bound to tell me: I did say that the implications are those that appear "at first sight". But the general fact remains that there is a point, whether 10 days less or 10 days more than present provision, beyond which further schooling - and that means, or would mean in any sane world, further public expenditure - is to put it lightly, subject to diminishing returns. If that point exists for the school year, it also exists for the period of compulsory schooling, the length of teacher training and the school day.

Things may be worse. The Consumers' Association recently argued that we should extend the

length of time between visits to the dentist. Longer intervals than the recommended six months do not appear to result in serious damage. Indeed one commentator has argued that frequent visits may do harm by filling and refilling teeth, many of which might have healed spontaneously. Such refilling progressively enlarges the cavity and weakens the tooth.

Once again, there appear "at first sight" dangerous implications, in this case for dentists. The reports were all careful to talk in the future conditional about the number of visits that would be sensible in the future if... But change the tense and mood and we have the implication that the NHS has been spending money on unnecessary, even harmful, visits to the dentist.

The British Dental Association has attacked such ideas and argued that visits should be every three months. It may be right. What appears sensible at first sight often is not sensible. It may mean that the dentists, teachers and social workers all need more public spending. But what is clear is that there is no reason to assume that current levels of spending, of lengths of school years and days, of social worker numbers, of intervals of visits to the dentist, are optimal.

And if expenditure on and provision of state health, education and welfare are subject to diminishing returns, if there is a point after which more does not mean better and may mean worse, then all political parties have an obligation to consider and reconsider levels of provision, increasing some and reducing others. The obligation to reduce some (and reallocate other services) falls even more heavily on parties enthusiastically committed to extensive state services.

The Labour Party's claim to be committed to the welfare state has been accepted far too uncritically. The question is whether the commitment is to the universal providers of state welfare, regardless of their efficiency or to their customers. If Labour is committed to the latter, it will not "defend all essential services" at the current level or assume that all services need more "resources", but will eagerly and repeatedly assess the marginal efficiency of levels of service provision and ruthlessly, far more ruthlessly than the Conservatives, cut those that spend and provide wastefully, even counter-productively.

Every pound spent on an unnecessary dental filling, day at school or social work visit is one that could go to a homeless child, or whatever cause Labour finds most worthy.

If there are no resolutions at Bournemouth significantly to reduce spending and provision of some state services then the motives for other resolutions to increase spending become suspect. If Labour does not endorse a programme identifying necessary cuts, its claim to support state welfare will be fraudulent; its name should be changed to the "conservative" party.

The author is director of The Social Affairs Unit.

moreover... Miles Kingston

Noises with a decibel point

Mrs Thatcher used a curious image on location in Egypt the other day when she said we had broken the heart of the Soviet Intelligence operation in London. Heartbreak? Will the streets of London now be filled with the sobbing of Russian spies, moaning over the defection of Cornelia Oleg, clutching half-finished bottles of vodka and singing the Russian national anthem to the demise of a once great news-gathering service? Did she perhaps mean that we had broken the back of it, a comparatively silent operation? I hope so, as London is noisy enough without the addition of choirs of heartbroken Soviet agents.

No sooner had Mrs Thatcher finished speaking than two more disquieting bits of news were announced. One was that Westminster is to impose drastic restrictions on the noise level of buses, and the other that Raleigh has produced a new bicycle aimed at children (or targeted at kids, as they now say) which not only has a computerized speedometer and mileometer, but incorporates a radio tuned to the nearest pop station and an electronic horn which sounds like a demented Space Invaders machine. In other words, they are cutting down on the friendly individual sound of the busker and increasing the impersonal noise level of the machine.

You can see already why my argument is going. Noise is getting noisier, and everything is going downhill. Wrong. After a period of meditation on this subject, I have perceived that noise is relative and that our reaction to it depends more on our subjective feelings than the nature of the noise itself. Only the noise of our grumbling remains constant.

Example one. Recently I was in a pub where they were playing canned cocktail music, the endless rattle of a mindless piano. I asked the barman if it was possible to turn the volume down. He said it was, but I would have to let the pianist in person, and he pointed to a little figure at the far end of the pub cressening the keys of an upright piano. My attitude changed immediately to one of approval.

Example two. On holiday in Greece I noticed that whenever spear-fishermen brought an octopus ashore, they beat it on the rocks to finish it off - for five minutes at least they bashed it to death, with a vindictive, brutal sound which I found agonizing. Then one day a kindly Greek revealed that the octopus was

already dead; the bashing process was only to keep the meat soft and without it the octopus would turn inedibly tough during cooking. Straightaway the brutal sound became a soft slapping, merely part of the culinary traditions of Greece.

Example three. The loudest and most unpleasant sounds to be heard in London are the wailing of police cars, shrieking of ambulances and the massed avant garde noise of fire engines. I really find them so physically painful that I have taken to sticking fingers in my ears whenever they pass. But because we always assume that they are on a mercy dash somewhere, none of us ever objects.

The truth is that sounds are seldom unpleasant in their own right, only by association. And the most powerful source for making them pleasant is nostalgia. There are many sounds which were once thought to be unbearably modern and are now pleasantly evocative. The drone of a light propeller-driven aircraft, the thrashing of a steam engine, the hum of an airship, the ping-pong noises of a pin-ball machine, the hiss of a 78 rpm record, throbbing ship engines, suburban lawn-mowers, street pianos, whistling kettles, church bells - all once thought to pollute the atmosphere and now thought to be cheerful or picturesque. Yes, even church bells - my father used to stand at the bottom of our garden on Sunday morning shaking his fist at the church and crying: "Those bloody bells!" With a hunched back, he would have made a great Quasimodo.

The other great force for making noise attractive is exoticism. Foreign street noises are automatically more interesting than our own. There was a play on Radio 4 recently by Douglas Kennedy called *Floating down the Nile on the Oxford English Dictionary* in which the background noises of Cairo played as large a part as any of the characters. I was not entirely surprised to hear, during the credits, that it had been recorded on location. But a radio play, recorded on location? I rang the producer to check if the actors had been flown out as well.

"It was a joke," said producer Peter Cavanagh. "It was all recorded here in Belfast." I should have known better. If it had really been recorded in Cairo, they would have had to include a speech by Mrs Thatcher (see first paragraph and start piece again.)



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TWO ACTS, TWO TESTS

Act Two of a play stage-managed by the American Administration took place yesterday in the White House, when President Reagan outlined his new trade policy. The audience he sought to impress was Congress, hell-bent on rolling up the map of free trade and protecting American industry against foreign competition.

Act One had taken place in New York, only the day before. There the finance ministers of President Reagan's closest trading partners - Japan, West Germany, France and Britain - had joined the American Treasury Secretary, Mr James Baker, for a specially convened meeting at which they put their signatures to a statement of intention to lower the dollar.

This had immediate effect on the world's currency markets. It therefore enabled the President to talk to his industrialists from a marginally less overvalued exchange-rate position. This in turn may just marginally have diminished these industrialists' determination to bully their Congressmen into overruling every single one of the President's vetoes of protectionist legislation.

That, at least, is the hope: the thin thread of sense binding Sunday's "Group of Five" meeting to the President's lecture on trade yesterday. The first act was a decent attempt by the President to strengthen his stand against protectionism, which they genuinely believe him to be fighting as hard as he can. It made sense for Messrs Lawson and company to agree to take part in this particular charade; provided they do not confuse it with reality.

This reality is certainly that America's vast deficit on manufactured trade, which emerged in 1982 and has risen to over one hundred billion dollars, is exacerbated by the over-valued exchange rate of the dollar. So far in the Group of Five's search for a consensus, expediency and truth marched together. It is equally true that the dollar has not been brought low by America's widening trade gap, in the comfortable, self-correcting fashion that floating exchange rates were once supposed to provide. Exchange rates, in the plaintive words of the Group of Five statement, "should better reflect fundamental economic conditions than has been the case."

There is, however, one fundamental which America's exchange rate has been reflecting with great clarity: the scale of its budget deficit. America's need for foreign funds to finance it and consequent high level of interest rates. To deal with the imbalances in the American economy by intervening against the dollar in the foreign exchange markets is to treat the symptom and not the cause.

It is foolish for the American Administration to believe that it can assuage American industry until this problem is tackled. For America's trade deficit will persist. It is equally foolish for Congress to suppose this deficit can be reduced by protectionist controls on imports, without diverting the pressures caused by the budget deficit into other dangerous channels. It is equally foolish to believe that the dollar can be safely nurtured down to competitive levels by means of intervention in the foreign

exchange markets, while it remains under such strong and conflicting pressures.

Even so, there can be virtue in play-acting to buy time. And there is especial virtue in the endeavour to do so by co-operative gesture. The members of the Group of Five have come a long way from early, truculent belief that exchange rates should always be left to themselves in the best of all possible worlds; they have learnt afresh the need for co-ordinated exchange rate policy, with such enthusiasm that our own Chancellor now congratulates himself on converting the Americans to this view. Co-ordinated intervention can be used to change expectations; to signal a change in the economic climate. It is not, and never will be, a foolproof game; but it is one that finance ministers everywhere now feel they must learn to play.

The remaining critical role is that they should not end up playing against themselves. The proper process of adjustment of the dollar, and America's trade deficit, should have come through lower interest rates as America's thirst for capital diminished. This, in turn, would allow Europe's interest rates to come down. The danger of the strategy to which America's allies have now signed up is that it attempts to improve American competitiveness without automatically providing interest-rate relief in Europe. The two tests of President Reagan's play will be whether he manages to hold the trade lines where he has redrawn them yesterday, or is forced to retreat again; and whether world interest rates can still be brought down steadily and continuously.

THE SHOCKS TO COME

The response to the Mexican earthquake has been world-wide - from the rest of Latin America and North America, from the Soviet Union, from Australia and Japan. The British government has sent prompt specialist assistance from the Belize garrison, and further aid is on its way. Mexico is a proud and stoical country and it is impossible not to be moved by the impressive discipline and solidarity shown by the inhabitants of Mexico City at this time. The earthquake destroyed the country's largest hospital, and 30 schools in the capital city alone. It has shattered the communications network, and inflicted grievous damage in the government district. It is still hard to assess damage in the provinces.

The disaster came at a critical juncture in Mexico's economic affairs. Only hours before the quake the International Monetary Fund had announced that Mexico had fallen from compliance with her agreed austerity programme. The earthquake must now force a general revision of plans and pro-

grammes. But even before it, Mexico had ceased to be a republic that, in Mrs Thatcher's optimistic words had "shown the way" out of the impasse of indebtedness.

President de la Madrid had planned to address the United Nations on the dilemmas faced by Latin American debtors this week. The theme will now be taken up in his absence by President Sarney of Brazil and President Garcia of Peru. As short a while ago as the occasion of President Garcia's inauguration in July it was easier to note the differences than the similarities between these leaders' positions on the debt question. The differences still exist, but the positions have converged, and not in the direction of compliance with IMF orthodoxy. Doubts about Mexico's ability to sustain her agreements as the United States recovery slowed and the oil price began to slide were rife before the earthquake came to compound her problems.

To the Mexican government it

also presents a new political challenge. It puts the competence of the administration and of Mexican politicians to cruel immediate tests. The trials of the aftermath are also foreseeable. Earthquakes not only bring pestilence, but also rumour, suspicion and bitter accusation. They can bring down governments as well as buildings. The impact of this tragedy will make Mexicans wish to put behind them the lacklustre disputes and frauds of the July elections, and it is not sentimental to discern in the rallying of the citizens of the capital city qualities of cohesion, seriousness and dignity that in its best past moments the ruling PRI captured and expressed. These good moments have not been many in recent years. Mexico needs help, and will demand greater understanding abroad. President de la Madrid and the Mexican system of government will now face new strains, new demands and new scrutiny. All Mexicans have the sympathy of the world at this sad time. That fact may do just a bit to ease a gigantic task.

DODGING THE HARRINGTON QUESTION

No one can accuse Professor Ralf Dahrendorf of lacking courage, either personal or intellectual. He was a first-rate academic leader at the London School of Economics and his full-time presence in Britain is sorely missed. His agreement to join the Inner London Education Authority's investigating committee into the management of the Polytechnic of North London was a boon, for it promised that the resulting report would be marked by fierce independence of mind.

And yet it must be hoped Professor Dahrendorf hesitated before signing the report's paragraph 53. It is a lazy paragraph, and cowardly; it stains other valuable parts of the report. For the central question of the attempted exclusion of National Front student, Patrick Harrington, from the polytechnic is the appropriate response of a liberal institution to collective unreason. Paragraph 53 poses the question, then lets it dangle. Worse, it rephrases the issue as a conflict between the welfare of

an educational institution and the rights of "one individual" - conveniently sweeping away the responsibility of the students' union and certain of the teaching staff for plunging the polytechnic into chaos.

The committee's report reflects perhaps the occupational propensity of its chairman, Miss Sheila Browne, formerly Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, to want to keep the academic show on the road. It is full of positive recommendations for how the director who is soon to be appointed to the polytechnic must reorganise staff and improve communications. These are useful, even though they reflect previous inquiries; throughout its crises, departments at PNL have continued to do good work, and for the sake of their future students, every effort should be made to strengthen the college's management.

But that is no case for what one commentator has called collective amnesia. It is too easy for the authors of this report to

load blame for the Harrington affair on a silent witness, the former director, Mr MacDowell, while never mentioning the role of the politicians of the ILEA and the North London Labour Party network. Few students have ever taken part in student union elections. Miss Browne and her colleagues note, without drawing an obvious conclusion about the ease with which a tiny ideologically-driven minority could influence the course of events. The critique of teacher-union clerks at PNL by Dr Marks and Lady Cox is too trenchant and too recent to permit this report's assumptions of sweet sincerity on all sides.

But there must be hope for the polytechnic. Next year a new, directly-elected education authority takes over in central London. At least there might be a change of personnel for the better. Much, everything, hangs on the new director; but for their own sake candidates for the post would be well advised to read much more widely than this account of the problems of PNL.

Russia and S Africa

From Mr John Bruce Lockhart
Sir, Every theory, from high moral rectitude to cynical self-interest, has recently been advanced to explain the puzzling worldwide determination to end Mr Botha's reformist government in South Africa and replace it by a black-dominated government: every theory except, perhaps, one.

Should a closer look now be taken at the role of the Soviets in this context? Of all the nations, only the Soviets have the necessary central control, the tools and the experience to mount a large-scale, coordinated, subversive operation to gain a specific political objective. Such operations have been undertaken in the past. The whole apparatus of the State, overt and covert, has been used in these operations.

Soviet strategic interests in South Africa are clear. They want access to

the mineral wealth; more important, they want control of the vital strategic shipping lanes around the Cape. The obvious way to do this is to establish a black Marxist-Leninist government in South Africa, under Soviet control.

Judged by the evidence that has already been published, the tactical means of achieving the main objective falls reasonably into four categories:
1. To control the African National Congress, both directly and through the banned South African Communist Party. The Soviets already finance, arm and train the ANC in political subversion and terrorist techniques.
2. To mobilize world opinion against apartheid by every means at their disposal - including national communist parties, Soviet front organizations, KGB agents of influence, and powerful lobbies based in the US, the UN and in Western Europe.

3. To widen political disruption and terrorism in South Africa until the country reaches a "revolutionary condition".
4. To break the will to resist among white South Africans.

It is difficult to see any sensible explanation of the present, almost universal, anti-apartheid activism other than Soviet orchestration. What is important is that Soviet involvement should be examined carefully as a matter of urgency. If major involvement is found to be true, then western governments should give it wide publicity. Above all, politicians in Washington should examine it. When Capitol Hill advocates policies that directly support Soviet strategic interests, something is not quite right.

Yours,
JOHN BRUCE LOCKHART,
Reform Club,
Pall Mall SW1,
September 14.

Hospital hygiene open to scrutiny

From Councillor P. Hartley

Sir, It is sad to see that hygienic practices in Government premises - particularly in DHSS hospitals - are all too often below standard. These hospitals are, of course, through the active encouragement of the DHSS, subject to monitoring checks by local authority environmental health officers and the conditions there are open to inspection. Other Crown properties are not open to such council inspection and one may be forgiven for wondering what the overall situation really is.

Central Government, through guidance and legislation, sets standards for the country as a whole, which are rightly enforced in the community at large. In many cases through local authorities, such as Westminster. Does Crown immunity still have to apply to Government premises for hygiene matters when Government should lead by example and comply with all the rules set by it for the remainder of the community?

It is time for all the ministries to set their house in order by setting up, or improving, their existing fields monitoring systems; employing consultants in the appropriate fields; or by further enlisting the aid of local authority environmental health departments.

We have in Westminster probably more hospitals and Government premises than any other local authority in the country. The House of Commons have recently invited us into their kitchens to assist.

In the wake of recent disclosures of other Crown premises a positive response from Government is called for.

Yours faithfully,
PETER HARTLEY Chairman,
Environment Committee,
Westminster City Council,
Victoria Street, SW1,
September 10.

Raising the Titanic

From Mr. R. M. B. H. Hackman

Sir, I write to protest against the emotional tone of the letter by Mr Richard Roberts (September 7). The remarks from Mr James Rusbridge (September 11) and Mr William Summers (September 12) seem far more pertinent.

The Titanic, and her replacement, the Britannic, are the only two ships left out of the six great four-funnel liners built between 1903 and 1915 which are at all capable of restoration. Between 1935 and 1950 the Mauretania, Olympic and Aquitania were, very suddenly, broken up, and the Lusitania appears to be too badly damaged to survive. If it is technically and commercially possible, either the Titanic or Britannic should be raised. The Britannic should be raised, the British Mercantile Marine in its heyday and as a fitting companion to the Queen Mary and the Great Britain.

As for those who would leave her alone, I sympathise with Mrs Hart (report, September 4), whose reasons are personal, but the illogical views of other correspondents would preclude excavation or investigation of any type of grave, for any period of history or pre-history, with consequent detriment to historical knowledge.

I suggest, therefore, that when the Titanic is raised, her chapel should become a memorial shrine, in which the names of those lost would be suitably recorded, and where anniversary services could be held.

Yours truly,
R.M.B.H. HACKMAN,
8 Butler Walk,
Petersfield,
Hampshire,
September 14.

Offers to teachers

From the Headmaster of S. John's Church of England School

Sir, I read with interest and some sympathy your leader (September 14) on the teachers' Sir Keith Joseph pay dispute. Changes must surely come, and so will assessments, but that is not what the dispute is about. It is not for me to question either the accuracy or integrity of statistics produced by such an august body as the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, but I do have some statistics of my own, and good reason to believe they are not unique.

The money available to my school from the authority for maintenance, decorations, capitation and teachers' salaries has decreased in real terms, not increased. The pupil/teacher ratio criteria have recently been made worse.

It is against this background that, sadly for the first time ever, four of my seven teachers will be on strike tomorrow. Yours faithfully,
PETER GOODFELLOW,
Headmaster,
S. John's Church of England School,
Crowborough,
East Sussex,
September 16.

Fearful noises

From Mrs B. Hornby

Sir, Perhaps Mrs Oliver (September 19) should adopt the approach to screaming military jets taken by a friend of mine whose two-year-old daughter was also frightened by them. He assured her that it was only Mr Smith hurrying home for his tea.

This calmed her and brought her out from under the kitchen table. It also caused amusement to her parents and conservation to a real Mr Smith to whom she was introduced later in the day when she asked him if he was the pilot eager for his tea!

Yours sincerely,
B. HORNBY,
Peel Cottage, Frog Lane,
Upper Boddington,
Northamptonshire.

Exercise of the Queen's prerogative

From Mr M. W. Curran

Sir, Your leader, "The royal prerogative" (September 19), over-estimates the clarity of the procedures to be followed by the Queen if faced by a majority-less Parliament.

You suggest that the Queen should allow a dissolution if the defeat of the new Government's programme in the Queen's Speech had been brought about by an aggregate of unorganised parliamentary groups, whereas, if a new coalition of parliamentary forces had emerged, a dissolution would not be necessary.

What had led to the defeat might, of course, be quite clear, but surely not necessarily so.

In that case how would the Queen distinguish between the mere aggregate and the genuinely new coalition? To the defeated Prime Minister it might be quite clear that it was a mere aggregate. To others the situation might seem much less certain.

On the other hand, given that it was apparent that a new coalition was emerging, how should the Queen decide which coalition leader should become Prime Minister? Should this be the then current leader of the party with the largest number of seats, or should she wait until the coalition produced a procedure for finding a leader and had carried this through?

It is perfectly possible that this leader might not be a party leader at the time the election is held, e.g., a Conservative currently on the back benches, but able to bring to a Conservative/Alliance coalition sufficient support to make the Conservatives the largest group.

In any case, a defeat for a new Government's Queen's Speech programme might itself not be straightforward.

The narrower the defeat of the Queen's Speech, the more likely it is that other leaders would emerge in the Conservative or Labour parties to claim that they, without the more contentious of the policies associated with Mrs Thatcher or Mr

Kinnock, would be able to get a majority for their own Queen's Speech, even without a formal coalition with the other parties.

Such prospective leaders of whichever party had the largest representation might well argue that a relatively even three-way split in the popular vote, assuming that had occurred, should be construed as a mandate for the more central policies of their own party and a rejection by the electorate of its own more extreme policies, thus obviating the need for a further election.

In the event of a serious challenge to the position of the then current leader of the largest party, should the Queen wait until the leadership question was settled before allowing a dissolution?

These are uncharted waters. I appeal the Alliance in its attempt to set the map-makers to work.

Yours faithfully,
M. W. CURRAN,
4 Linton Road, Oxford.

From Mr Wayne J. Norman
Sir, On hearing Mr Steel discuss constitutional precedents in an interview at this week's Liberal

Tunnel vision

From the Reverend Michael Campling
Sir, Before we rush into a decision about a tunnel or a bridge, perhaps we should heed a warning published in his *Cosmographie* by my (one-time) famous and redoubtable predecessor, the Reverend Dr Peter Heylyn, Rector of Alresford.

Writing about the Women of Britain ("The Women generally are more handsome than in other places: sufficiently endowed with natural beauties, without the addition of adulterate Sophistications," he informs us). As their beauties, so also are their Prerogatives the greatest of any Nation; ... And it is a common by-word among the Italians, that if there were a Bridge

Pseudo-science

From Dr D. Broadbent, FRs and Professor L. Weiskrantz, FRs

Sir, When asked to substantiate his view that people in certain fields are likely to make unwarranted assertions, Sir George Porter (September 16) refers daskly to "those who are doing serious research work in the behavioural sciences" as likely to agree with him. The only two

Fellows of the Royal Society who are psychologists, pre-retirement, and working in the UK, would like to be able to comment on whether we are in agreement. But we find serious ambiguities in the correspondence.

If Sir George is referring to assumptions and preconceptions about human behaviour in popular discussion, then of course many (not all) of these are scientifically worthless. And if they are paraded as "science", they can be positively harmful.

Of course, exactly the same is true of popular discussions of nutrition, exercise, computing or energy policy. How many millions have been spent on motorway repairs, bridge rebuilding, misdiagnoses in medicine, harmful side effects of drugs? Among the triumphs of science there will always be mishaps, and no field is immune.

On the other hand, if Sir George means that the academic profession of psychology by its very nature is more likely to advance unwarranted assumptions, which is a possible interpretation of his remarks, then we must say publicly that we disagree intensely. Having taught (and been taught) in sciences outside our own discipline, our impression is that formal training in psychology compares very favourably with that in older subjects. It insists upon careful harvesting and scrutiny of evidence, combined with logical analysis.

In the UK all undergraduate degree courses are vetted for approval of membership of the

conference I was surprised to discover that he was apparently ignorant of a most recent example of the very sort of "Monarch's (representative's) prerogative" he is so keen to "demystify".

Although he mentioned, near the top of his list, a pre-war Canadian precedent, the Liberal leader seemed completely unaware of the exciting goings on in the Ontario legislature only this past spring. After the May 2 election the Tories there (who had ruled for an uninterrupted 42 years) found themselves in a precarious minority position, with only 52 of the 125 seats: just four seats ahead of the Liberals, and with the New Democrats holding the remaining 25.

Nevertheless, the Queen's representative, Lieutenant-Governor John Black Aird, called upon the Tory leader, Mr Frank Miller, to try to form a government.

After weeks of negotiations between the New Democrats and the other two parties, and before Mr Miller's throne speech, a publicly announced deal of co-operation (though not a coalition) was struck between the New Democrats and the Liberals.

The Tory throne speech was then defeated, and denying the Tory leader's request to call a new election, the Lieutenant-Governor called upon the Liberal leader, David Peterson, (yet another Liberal David) to try to gain the confidence of the House, which he has.

The historical similarities of the predicaments of Ontario and the British Liberal parties aside, this is surely the sort of constitutional precedent Mr Steel and his Alliance partners will want to publicise.

(It is worth noting that the press reaction in Ontario to this exercise of the Monarch's prerogative seems to have been overwhelmingly positive.)

Yours faithfully,
WAYNE NORMAN,
London School of Economics,
Houghton Street, WC2.

From the Principal of Halesowen College

Sir, You conclude your excellent leader, "The royal prerogative" (September 19), with the assertion that there is no more suitable person than the Queen to carry out the functions entailed in the exercise of the prerogative. Few would disagree with this, nor with your view that the Queen is not in need of advice on the subject from Mr Steel or anyone else.

Is it not, therefore, a trifle inconsistent of you to state twice, what you consider it would be prudent of the Queen to do in certain hypothetical circumstances?

Yours faithfully,
DAVID TERRY, Principal,
Halesowen College,
Whittingham Road,
Halesowen, West Midlands.

From Mr Arthur Jacobs

Sir, What does Dr Geoffrey Marshall, of Queen's College, Oxford, mean by "Messrs" Owen, Steel and Thatcher (September 20)? Does he know something we do not?

Yours truly,
ARTHUR JACOBS,
10 Oldbury Close, Sevenoaks, Kent.

built over the Narrow Sea, all the Women of Europe would run into England for here they have the upper hand in the streets, the upper place at the Table, the thirds of their husbands' estates, and their equal share in all lands, privileges (sic) wherewith other Women are not acquainted.

Of course, Sir, if we would welcome all the Women of Europe running into England, let us make up for lost time and get the bridge built double-quick. Peter Heylyn, who incidentally was also Sub-Dean of Westminster, published his tome about 325 years ago. He did not, seemingly, envisage a tunnel.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL CAMPLING,
The Rectory,
Kiln Lane,
Old Alresford, Hampshire.

British Psychological Society. Serious students of psychology, in our experience, are among the most demanding of evidence and critical of unsubstantiated assertions. They are also, for the same reason, likely to be rather inhibited in making generalized pronouncements about other fields when they lack sufficient evidence to do so.

Even if it were not Sir George's intention to make a judgment about the inherent nature of academic psychology, what could be interpreted as generalized criticism from an authoritative source tends to be rapidly self-fulfilling because young people are discouraged from entering a field reported as being "soft".

Instead of "hard" v "soft", we think a more relevant distinction might be between "easy" v "hard". Yours faithfully,
DONALD BROADBENT,
LAWRENCE WEISKRANTZ,
University of Oxford,
Department of Experimental Psychology,
South Parks Road,
Oxford,
September 20.

Passenger pigeons

From Mr Michael Greville

Sir, Until I read Lord Greenhill's observations in his letter to you today (September 17) on the apparently common tactics of racing pigeons, I had thought of my experience two years ago as unique.

I was sailing a 34ft yacht from Fecamp towards Beachy Head when, shortly after dropping the French coast, a number of these birds passed and one of them proceeded to join me on watch in the cockpit.

For six hours he kept me company, refusing all offers of hospitality (biscuits and beer) and declining to indulge in conversation, until he alighted from his perch, circled the mast head, presumably in appreciation, and flew off.

ON THIS DAY

SEPTEMBER 24 1866

In 1715 Crete fell under the domination of the Ottoman empire. For nearly 200 years its history was one of insurrections, foreign occupations, abortive constitutions. The Treaty of London 1913 ended the island to Greece. Our Correspondent was the *conduite-publique* journalist, General Ferdinand Eder, whose habit of engaging in wars as well as reporting them earned him the displeasure of his masters in Printing House Square.

GREECE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The revolutionary movement in the island of Crete has acquired a degree of importance in the minds of Greek politicians that prevent their attending to any other subject. For the last ten days the Athenian newspapers have been filled with Cretan affairs, the extension of the Greek Kingdom, and the downfall of the Ottoman Empire. Every article that appears in an English, French, or German paper, if it happens to favour the cause of Greece, or reprobate the bankruptcy of Turkey, is translated, and the result is the admiration of the public, as if it announced the opinions of a Prime Minister and the resolution of a Cabinet. Crete is unquestionably an island worth winning, if it can be won either by writing about it or even by fighting for it, which is a thing the Athenians seem less inclined to undertake. In size and population Crete is little inferior, and in fertility and position far superior to Corsica. Its forests have not yet been all destroyed by repeated conflagrations like the trees which once covered the mountains of Greece. The population exceeds 200,000, of whom upwards of 80,000 are Mussulmans of the Greek race, and who speak only the Greek language. In ancient times Crete gave birth to King Minos, who first taught the Greeks the value of laws, and it seems just now as if it were about to give birth to circumstances that may teach the Sublime Porte the value of a new system of legislation for its Christian subjects.

Three months ago the Christians of Crete demanded justice according to the laws of the Ottoman Empire, and asked for the execution of the privileges conferred on them by the *Hatir Humayum*. That phase of the movement is past. They now assert an inalienable right of nation to enjoy political liberty, and, in virtue of this right, they have declared Crete independent, and decreed its union with the Kingdom of Greece. The Sultan's Government neglects to redress grievances, and to secure the rights of justice. It is always inapt to render justice. It now appeals for the preservation of its authority to the Divine right of Emperors to maintain civil order within their own dominions. The Cretan Christians refuse to accept the revolution of the United States of America, the Sublime Porte seeks its precedent in Russia and Poland. Both parties appeal to principles of justice and policy, which cannot be put aside without opening a door to anarchy on one side and to tyranny on the other, or of granting to nations and Sovereigns a licence to do whatever seems good in their own eyes. If the Christians and the Sultan be left to themselves they must settle their differences with the sword. It would be vain to select the right, or what is equitable, for the question at issue is who shall exercise the supreme powers of Government? War can only be prevented by the three protecting Powers who uphold the monarchy of Greece undertaking to say what is justice, and their duty is to carry their award into execution with a strong hand.

A virtual declaration of war on the part of the Christians took place on the 12th of August. The population of several districts about Mount Ida published a decree establishing a "Sacred Battalion" of 400 veteran soldiers to fight for the Cross, and appointed a chief to command it. Several revolutionary proclamations have been subsequently published in different parts of the island.

The geographical configuration of the island of Crete affords great facilities for the operations of the Ottoman forces, and, if ably and vigorously employed, they are in a position to enforce over every district except the mountains of Spakia in less than a fortnight, and with very little bloodshed. But ill-combined or timid operations might cause delays which would enable the Christians, supposing they have taken their measures well, to prolong their defence on the mountains that form the backbone of the island in its whole length. But after the Turks are in possession of the fertile districts and the revenues of the island there would be little gained by prolonging a war in Spakia and the recesses of Mount Ida, unless its object were to insure the intervention of the Great Powers. If the Cretans have put all their faith in Greek and foreign diplomacy without making some provision of breech-loaders and collecting magazines of ammunition and provisions, it may be found that they have acted with precipitation in decreeing the abolition of Turkish authority and their union with Greece. They know of course, very well what would gratify their present desires; but it may be doubted whether they are good judges of their future interests. The Cretans have always fought well, and independence is a cause worth fighting for...

Within 10 minutes the Royal Sovereign Tower was sighted, and soon Beachy Head itself.

I was most impressed by this display of constructive idleness and accurate dead reckoning to boot, but not so by the mess left on the tiller. Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL GREVILLE,
79A Milson Road, W14,
September 17.

Double entendre

From Mr Andy Pedley

Sir, A "joy" ride... on a CS (report, September 19)? Surely not!

Sincerely,
ANDY PEDLEY,
56 Fernhead Gardens,
Greenford, Middlesex.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
September 23: The Princess Anne, Mrs. Mark Phillips, Honorary President of the British Knitting and Clothing Export Council, this morning visited Jaeger Ladies Dress, Skirt and Blouse Factory in Kilmarnock.

Her Royal Highness was received by Mr. Majestic's Lord-Lieutenant for Ayr and Arden (Colonel Bryce Knox), and the Chairman of Jaeger (Mr. G. Young) and toured the factory, escorted by the General Manager (Mr. J. Spence).

In the afternoon, The Princess Anne, Mrs. Mark Phillips attended the opening ceremony of the ACP/EEC (Lomé) Convention Joint Assembly Meeting at Eden Court, Inverness, and later met delegates to the Conference at the Town House.

Her Royal Highness was received by her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Inverness (Lieutenant-Commander Lachlan Mackintosh of Mackintosh, RN), the President of the European Parliament (Monsieur Pierre Pflimlin) and the Provost of Inverness (Mr. A. G. Sellar).

The Princess Anne, Mrs. Mark Phillips, attended by Mrs. Andrew Fielden, and Lieutenant-Colonel Peter Gibbs, travelled in an aircraft of 32 Squadron, Royal Air Force.

KENSINGTON PALACE
September 23: The Prince of Wales this afternoon visited The Prince of Wales Community Centre (Sunderland) Centre, St Thomas Street, Sunderland.

His Royal Highness, attended by Mr. David Roycroft, travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

The Princess of Wales this evening opened the "Egyptian Landscapes" Exhibition of Weavings from the Ramses Wissa Wassef School in Egypt at the Barbican Concourse Gallery, Silk Street, EC2.

Viscountess Campden was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
St James's Palace
September 23: The Duke of Kent, Vice-Chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, today visited Pilkington PE Limited and Ega Limited at St Asaph, North Wales.

His Royal Highness, Chairman of the United Kingdom Committee of European Music Year, later attended a concert for the St Asaph Festival at St Asaph Cathedral.

His Royal Highness, who travelled in an aircraft of the 32 Squadron, was received by the Duke of Kent, attended by Captain Charles Bount.

The Duchess of Kent today opened Halesham House, the new student accommodation unit, at the University of Buckingham.

Mrs Peter Wilton-Stewart was in attendance.

On the twelfth anniversary of the death of Professor Stefania Niekra, President of the Association of Polish Musicians Abroad, a Mass will be celebrated in Westminster Cathedral, on Sunday, September 29, at 10.30 a.m.

Marriages

Mr T. R. Bacon
and **Mrs M. R. O. Grant**
The marriage took place on Saturday September 14, at St Just in Roseland Church, between Mr Timothy Bacon, younger son of the late Mr Christopher Bacon and of Mrs Christopher Bacon, and Miss Marylyn Grant, twin daughter of Mr and Mrs Arthur Grant. The Rev. Roney Ackworth officiated, assisted by the Rev. Bernard Morgan.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Alexander William Durnford, Suzanne and Andrew Bartlett and Henrietta Merriam. Mr Richard Bacon was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon is being spent in India.

Mr G. Groves
and **Mrs M. J. Batey**
The marriage took place at the Old Palace, Mayfield on September 14, by Mr Gordon Groves and Miss Jane Batey.

Mr J. D. Kendrick
and **Mrs D. H. Rushbrook**
The marriage took place on September 21, 1985, at Lewisham Register Office, followed by a blessing at St John's Church, Catford, South-East, between Mr James Derrick Kendrick, of Adelaide, South Australia, and Miss Helen (Dorothy) Rushbrook, of Catford. They will live in Adelaide, South Australia.

Mr A. Wilcock
and **Mrs J. J. Campbell-Kemp**
The marriage took place in London on September 14, by Mr Andrew Wilcock and Miss Yolanda Campbell-Kemp.

Forthcoming

Mr R. D. Colt
and **Mrs L. L. Hough**
The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mr and Mrs Peter Colt, of Hereford, The Wirral, and Lynda, daughter of Mr and Mrs Dennis Hough, of Bolton-Sands, Lancashire.

Mr G. Green
and **Mrs A. E. D. Quinn**
The engagement is announced between Geoffrey, eldest son of Mr Roger Green, of Uppingham, Rutland, and Mrs Yvonne Nichols, of Manton, Leicestershire, and Amanda Davenall, daughter of Mr and Mrs John R. Quinn, of Lyddington, Rutland.

Mr B. M. P. R. Guerin
and **Mrs C. F. Stappleton-Thorley**
The engagement is announced between Benoit-Marie, son of M and Mme Philippe Guerin, of Concarneau, Thonon-les-Bains, France, and Caroline, elder daughter of Mr Brian Stappleton-Thorley, of Milton Cottage, Dalgue, Perthshire, and Mrs Audrey Stappleton-Thorley, of Herfordshire.

Mr P. W. T. Anson
and **Mrs C. M. Macintosh**
The engagement is announced between Philip, eldest son of Mr and Mrs E. T. Anson, of Chesham (formerly of Bury) and Catherine, daughter of Mr and Mrs I. B. Macintosh, of Hammersmith.

Mr M. J. P. F. Williamson-Persh
and **Mrs E. A. Kavanagh**
The forthcoming marriage is announced between Marcus, son of Mr J. F. Williamson-Persh, of Montreal, Canada, and Mrs E. A. Williamson-Persh, of Westbury, Germany, and Edwin, eldest daughter of Mr P. V. F. Kavanagh, of Wokingham, Berkshire and Mrs P. G. M. Walby, of Pevensy.

Science report

Ball lightning could be energy source

From Peter Spinks, Amsterdam

Although scientists have traditionally discounted as folklore the phenomenon of ball lightning, a luminous electric sphere about the size of a grapefruit that can float around inside houses or vehicles after lightning storms, Dutch researchers have shown that it not only exists but may well provide a cheaper and simpler alternative to conventional nuclear energy.

Dr Geert Dijkhuis, director of Convector, the Rotterdam-based company, has just succeeded in producing for one second a variant of ball lightning in the form of what he calls "spherical, independent discharges of 10cm". He says that although such discharges are not proper ball lightning, it will be a year or so before he demonstrates the full effect.

According to Dr Dijkhuis, whose doctorate in applied physics is from Stanford University, ball lightning consists of ionized gas, created by lightning discharges. The gas is ionized by proximity to a lightning bolt, after which vortices are created in the gas.

These vortices spin in the same way as the particles of which they consist. The spin is then transmitted to the whole blob of gas, creating a spinning, luminous ball. That theory, Dijkhuis says, explains why ball lightning has been reported inside the cabins of metal aircraft.

To put theory into practice, he set out to show that very large short-circuit currents, such as those sometimes occurring in submarines, may produce, on interruption, a self-supported fireball which closely resembles ball lightning.

He has done that by setting up a circuit in the laboratory, using 400 submarine batteries. The cells are connected in five separate rings, each delivering 35 kilovolts at 160 volts. In addition to the main circuit breaker, which interrupts all five rings simultaneously, each ring has a special connector for making another short circuit. It is the interruption of the main short circuit which leads to the production of a fireball.

To achieve full-blown ball lightning, he says the next step will be to increase the current in the circuits and to perform the circuit-breaking process faster. That should produce small-scale nuclear fusion, which he believes takes place in ball lightning.

Although his ideas are scorned by older classical physicists who, he says, are unimpressed with modern quantum mechanics and relativity theory, Dr Dijkhuis has been encouraged by recent work by Indian physicists. They have found that ordinary lightning strokes can produce neutrons as a result of fusion of deuterium nuclei. The fusion process releases enough power

to support the average ball lightning.

That point could be proved with a neutron detector. The presence of neutrons in the recent discharge obtained by Convector was not proven, however, because the detector's sensitivity was disrupted by the accompanying bang of the discharge.

If the next phase of the project, which is funded by Rotterdam's city council and several hundred private investors, produces a ball lasting for three seconds or longer, then the Dutchman's dream of producing one megawatt of electricity from this small-scale energy source may come true.

He envisages commercialization in the form of a relatively small nuclear reactor running on deuterium. Its main advantage would be that deuterium, which is obtainable from sea water, is cheaper than the fuel used by conventional nuclear reactors.

nostalgic without being fustian". His personal collection, which we hope to show in a way reminiscent of the way it was set out in that description perfectly. It epitomises the taste of our times.

Decorative Arts from 1850 to the Present Day
Monday, 30th September at 11 a.m. & 2.30 p.m., King Street. A wide-ranging sale of excellent quality where sinuous art nouveau forms can be seen near the earnest simplicity of Arts and Crafts furniture, stylized 1920s motorising advertising material and Scandinavian 1950s glass. Tiffany, Durrant, and Loetz glass, and even a Salvador Dali 'Lips' sofa. Opportunities for buyers of almost every branch of modern applied arts.

Sunday Opening: In addition to normal weekday viewing, Christie's King Street, will be open on Sundays, from 6 October, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Staff will be available to advise on works of art on view.

For further information on these and other September sales please contact 01-539 9060 for King Street, 01-581 7611 for South Kensington. South Kensington is open every Monday evening until 7 p.m. for viewing and free assessments on items brought in.

CHRISTIE'S
A WEEK IN VIEW

Docklands site for flowering of Glasgow

The comedian Billy Connolly yesterday helped to launch the 1988 Glasgow Garden Festival, which hopes to rival the spectacular Empire Exhibition of 1938.

A derelict dockland site on Clydeside will be landscaped and transformed into an amusement park of flowers, train rides, science exhibits and fun events for youngsters.

"Glasgow used to be a big factory and people were worried when the heavy industry went that work they would do", Mr Connolly said at the press launch of the project in London.

The garden festival will help the people of Glasgow to look forward to a bright future.

The festival hopes to attract five million people, creating 1,500 jobs in the process.

The 75,000 square metre site will provide entertainment linked with keeping fit, sport, nautical and maritime activities, horticulture, scenery, and science and technology. Later it will be developed for housing.

Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, said: "The prospect of several million people beating a path to a derelict dock on the Clyde, imaginatively transformed, catches the imagination."

Glasgow will be the third British city to have a festival. Liverpool had one last year and Stoke-on-Trent's is next year.

OBITUARY

HERR AXEL SPRINGER

Powerful German newspaper magnate

Herr Axel Springer, who died in West Berlin on September 22 at the age of 73, was a distinctive figure in West German life in the period since the end of the Second World War. He built up a newspaper and publishing empire whose outspoken, and frequently strident, tone was an important feature of the political scene.

Through *Die Welt*, his flagship paper, *Bild*, the mass-circulation daily, and a network of magazines and smaller local papers, Springer was able to ensure that his views were well known to politicians and public. Those views were largely conservative, based on hostility to communism, a belief in German reunification, and a conviction that the place of West Germany was with the democracies of the Western world. Springer was also a strong advocate of Israel and good German-Israeli relations.

In *Bild*, in particular, the message was driven home with banner headlines and, often, an unscrupulous use of innuendo and rumour. The Social Democratic Party was a constant target, especially at the time when Herr Willy Brandt was Chancellor and Springer became a symbol for many, both on the moderate and the far left, of an excessive concentration of power, abusively used.

In 1968, for instance, after an unsuccessful assassination attempt had been made on Rudi Dutschke, the left-wing student leader, in Berlin, student groups marched on his home in West Berlin and by building there a skyscraper which was plainly and provocatively visible from across the wall in East Berlin. And his papers, particularly *Bild*, continued to be well-informed on political issues, including intelligence and espionage, to the discomfort of politicians in Bonn.

Springer himself was unimpressed by such attacks. He demonstrated his belief in ultimate German reunification by making his home in West Berlin and by building there a skyscraper which was plainly and provocatively visible from across the wall in East Berlin. And his papers, particularly *Bild*, continued to be well-informed on political issues, including intelligence and espionage, to the discomfort of politicians in Bonn.

At one time he supported the right wing of the SPD in West Berlin, but in later years as the party became more of a power, and eventually formed a government of its own in Bonn, his papers were sharply opposed to it. They were particularly critical of the party's *Opportunismus*, believing that it was giving away too much to the Communist governments of the Eastern bloc.

They also focused on Brandt and his admittedly bohemian style of life, and when a spy was discovered in Brandt's entourage were outspoken in calling for his resignation.

Springer's achievement was to build up from nothing a vast newspaper and publishing empire which towered over its rivals in West Germany and made itself felt by people across the country. Its methods were not always attractive, and there were serious grounds for concern over its predominant position. But Springer's reply to his critics was that he had built it up by producing papers that were hard to read, and that was hardly reason for censure, or for cutting them down.

He himself led a fairly private life, not least, in recent years, for fear of terrorists, whom his papers had attacked. He suffered a severe blow in 1980 when his son, Axel, killed himself. Earlier this year a grandson was abducted in Switzerland, but subsequently released.

PROFESSOR JOHN BOWLE

Professor John Bowle, who died on September 17 at the age of 79, had a varied career, as schoolmaster, don, historian, writer, temporary civil servant, and in his capacity as director of his preparatory session and subsequently Professor of Political Theory there from 1950 to 1967 — as one of the architects of the College of Europe.

In narrative history, and biography, at both of which he excelled, Bowle succeeded in bringing his sources to life with an exceptional eye for the colour and personalities of the scene he was describing.

John Edward Bowle was born on December 19 1905. After a brilliant career at Marlborough (where his best friend was John Betjeman), which culminated in his winning the Brackenbury Scholarship to Balliol, he read history at Oxford.

A family crisis precipitated a collapse in his Schools, and having missed the expected fellowship, he taught history at Westminster School from 1932-40. From 1940-41 he taught history at Eton.

Bad eyesight precluded him from war service with the forces, but he joined the Air Ministry as one of the private secretaries of the Secretary of State for Air, Archibald Sinclair. Later in the war he served with the Foreign Office.

At the end of the war Bowle accepted a lectureship at Wadham College, Oxford. At last he had the facilities for research and writing. His first book, *Western Political Thought*, was an immediate success. There followed *The Unity of European History and Politics* and *Opinion in the Nineteenth Century*. The first brought him the

uncanny gift for knowing what would sell newspapers, often introducing techniques that had not previously been known in Germany. Before 1952, for instance, when he founded *Bild*, there had not been a successful mass-circulation tabloid, and with its bold use of photographs, red ink and large headlines it rapidly became a national institution.

Today *Bild* has a circulation of over five million, and with its emphasis on sport, crime and stories about sex, as well as its hard-hitting political coverage it has a secure readership.

In 1953 Springer took over *Die Welt*, originally set up under British auspices and one of West Germany's leading quality papers. Under Springer's ownership it, too, took a clearly right-of-centre line on political issues and on questions of law and order. As a way of emphasizing its national, as opposed to regional, standing, the German press scene was moved from Hamburg to Bonn.

Springer always insisted that he took no direct hand in the editorial policies of his papers, but his own views were well known and his editors did not stray far from them. High on his list of priorities in earlier days was German reunification, and in 1958 he went to Moscow in the belief that he could persuade the Soviet leaders to agree to it. He was unsuccessful, and that fuelled the anti-communist line which later became more marked.

At one time he supported the right wing of the SPD in West Berlin, but in later years as the party became more of a power, and eventually formed a government of its own in Bonn, his papers were sharply opposed to it. They were particularly critical of the party's *Opportunismus*, believing that it was giving away too much to the Communist governments of the Eastern bloc.

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He edited the *Concise Encyclopedia of World History* (1958), subsequently edited a Larousse work on similar lines and himself wrote *A New Outline of World History* later re-published as *Man Through the Ages*.

His other works included *Lord Samuel: A Biography*, *England: A Portrait* and a short biography of Napoleon.

Mr Frank Walker, one of Canada's most eminent journalists, who was editor-in-chief of the *Montreal Star* from 1968 to its closure in 1979, has died in Montreal at the age of 69.

Shaikh Abdel Latif Khair, Grand Mufti of Egypt, died on September 16 at the age of 63.

Mr Robert Hendry Weir, CB, who has died in Edinburgh at the age of 73, was director of the National Gas Turbine Establishment from 1960 to 1970, and of the National Engineering Laboratory from 1970 to 1974.

Royal Commonwealth Society. The guest of honour was Field Marshal Sir Edwin Bramall, Chief of Defence Staff.

National Sporting Club
The National Sporting Club held a boxing dinner at Grosvenor House last night. Mr Alan Butcher and Mr Phil Carrick were the guests of honour. Mr Jarvis Astaire was in the chair and the other speakers were Mr Percy Hinkins, founder and president of the club, who proposed the health of the guest, and Mr Neil Benson, honorary secretary.

Service dinner
The RAF Club Dining Society held a dinner last night at which Sir Austin Peckers was the guest of honour. Flight Lieutenant L. E. H. Williams presided and a vote of thanks was proposed by Flight Lieutenant F. J. Briggs.

£34,000 grant saves York Saxon dig
York Archaeological Trust is to receive a grant of £34,000 from the City Council to allow work to be continued on the non-redundant Redefine National Glass Factory at Fishergate, York.

During the summer a trial dig uncovered the remains of Edward, the long lost Anglo-Saxon city on the site. The new grant will allow further excavation to take place before the site is developed by Costain for new houses.

Benenden Charity Ball
The Benenden Charity Ball, in aid of the Sae Ryder and Loford Cheshire Foundations, will be held at the Hyde Park Hotel on Friday, November 1, 1985. Applications for tickets should be made to Mrs Peter James, Benenden, Ashchurch, Grove, London W12. Tel: 01-409 0838.

Musicians honoured
Sir Lennox Berkeley, Dietrich Fischer-Buchsbaum, Eric Feny, Sir Yehudi Menuhin, Gerald Moore, Sir Peter Pears and Solomon have been elected honorary members of the Royal Philharmonic Society for their outstanding services to music.

Church news
Appointments
The Rev. C. John Aitken, Vicar, Church of the Holy Spirit, Blackburn, Lancashire, will be Vicar of St. Peter's, Blackburn, Lancashire, from October 1, 1985.

The Rev. C. W. Herbert, Vicar, St. Peter's, Blackburn, Lancashire, will be Vicar of St. Peter's, Blackburn, Lancashire, from October 1, 1985.

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English & Foreign Silver: Tuesday, 24th September at 11 a.m., King Street. The kind of early-season sale which offers a wide selection of silver for use rather than museum pieces. Table services, tea-sets, butter-dishes, coffee-pots, and so on, most of excellent quality and at affordable prices.

The Studio of Frank O. Salisbury: Wednesday, 25th September at 11 a.m. & 2 p.m., King Street. All British Establishment Life is here. Salisbury, who painted portraits of the great and the good for the first six decades of the century, drew his style from the Italian masters, the great British eighteenth-century school, and his early stained glass apprenticeship. The range of the sale covers studies for public commissions such as the House of Lords charming interiors: First World War subjects, portraits of Royalty, politicians (a splendid Churchill among them), aristocracy and actors. The useful subject index is a Who's Who of the period. Price range £30 to £4,000.

The Property of The late Geoffrey Bennisson: Thursday, 26th September at 10.30 a.m. & 2.30 p.m., and Friday, 27th September at 11 a.m., King Street. If future historians of taste need to know what constituted taste, style, and taste in the sixties and seventies, Geoffrey Bennisson's collection surely defines it. As John Richardson writes in the introduction: Bennisson as a decorator "created an effect that would be festive without being formal, artistic without being novel, and

nostalgic without being fustian". His personal collection, which we hope to show in a way reminiscent of the way it was set out in that description perfectly. It epitomises the taste of our times.

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Decorative Arts from 1850 to the Present Day
Monday, 30th September at 11 a.m. & 2.30 p.m., King Street. A wide-ranging sale of excellent quality where sinuous art nouveau forms can be seen near the earnest simplicity of Arts and Crafts furniture, stylized 1920s motorising advertising material and Scandinavian 1950s glass. Tiffany, Durrant, and Loetz glass, and even a Salvador Dali 'Lips' sofa. Opportunities for buyers of almost every branch of modern applied arts.

Sunday Opening: In addition to normal weekday viewing, Christie's King Street, will be open on Sundays, from 6 October, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Staff will be available to advise on works of art on view.

For further information on these and other September sales please contact 01-539 9060 for King Street, 01-581 7611 for South Kensington. South Kensington is open every Monday evening until 7 p.m. for viewing and free assessments on items brought in.

CHRISTIE'S
A WEEK IN VIEW

Latest wills
Sir Eric Hallinan, of Hammersmith, London, Chief Justice of Cyprus from 1952 to 1957, left estate in England and Wales valued at £23,003 net.

Judge Paul Grant Hughes, of Ruddington, Nottinghamshire, who was made a Circuit Judge in 1978, left £320,947 net.

George Cox, of Burgess Hill, West Sussex, who played football for Arsenal and cricket for Sussex, left £163,394 net.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):
Caselton-Clark, Mrs Ventrice Kir-

sopp, of Amersham, £320,221 net.
Bury St Edmunds, £337,973 net.
Maynard, Barbara, Wilmslow, of Palmers Green, London, £348,653 net.
Morris, Mr Elwyn, of Eastbourne, television engineer, £287,892 net.
Walker, Mr William Albert, of Aylesbury, £250,550 net.
Alvis, Mr John Brinkley, of Richmond, Surrey, £741,530 net.
Hagham, Mr Peter Rodger, of Cheltenham, £509,650 net.
Downward, Mrs Elizabeth Mary, of Sparsholt, Winchester, Hampshire, £804,706 net.
Whitehead, Beatrice May, of Bourne, £450,988 net.

THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

A different world but no new policy appears

The dollar is in real trouble. That is the message which filtered through to bond markets in New York, where traders initially assumed that bonds would benefit from a weaker dollar, on the ground that interest rates were now less likely to rise. Subsequently, bonds slipped as they realized that trade-offs against the dollar's fall could be quite expensive.

Financing the US federal and trade deficits, the financial crux of the situation, has been substantially assisted by the dollar's over-valuation. The decline in the currency, if as seems likely, discourages capital inflows to the US.

Theoretically, US inflation prospects may also worsen, leading to a steepening in the US yield curve, which in turn will make it more difficult for the US Treasury to sell its debt.

These difficulties are superimposed on structural problems, notably congressional reluctance to authorize a rise in the federal debt ceiling, which should result in a flood of US paper hitting the market in early Autumn.

The stark reality is that the Federal Reserve Board, has very little room to manoeuvre in its bid to US economic growth unless the agreement to bring the dollar down. Within the US, protectionist pressures are increasing rapidly, as cheap imports pour in.

In the Third World, the US banking system faces a cabal of disenchanted and heavily indebted nations for whom the mighty dollar means higher debt interest payments and repressive fiscal policies. Not unnaturally, many of them are contemplating declaring *force majeure* and threatening to repudiate their debts.

Moves of this nature risk bringing about severe problems for the US banking system. American banks have been under consistent pressure throughout President Reagan's experiment with unrestrained fiscal deficits. Such is their current exposure to bad debts, that they cannot afford a recession. Yet that is what the latest set of US growth figures (for the third quarter) depict: real growth of less than 3 per cent counts in this numbers game as zero expansion. Add to this position the threat to the US from the Third World and the precautionary measures over the weekend involving the Group of Five become understandable.

The consequences of this international support operation for Britain are not easy

to fathom. Markets registered a knee-jerk response. Sterling shot above \$1.40 to close roughly 5½ cents up on the day at \$1.4295. Gilt's jumped by around one point on the not unnatural assumption that such an exchange rate level would be officially unacceptable. Rate cuts would follow soon. The fact that the CBI chose yesterday to reveal that export order books are at a 12-month low reinforced the market's judgement that rates and sterling would be coming down soon, if only to boost the real economy.

This view is predicated on the perception that Britain is broadly in charge of its own destiny, forgetting that this is a dollar crisis. Piggy-backing the dollar on the way down may not be allowed this time round.

This explains why the Chancellor chose to stress that monetary policy would remain tight. The Bank of England reinforced his comments in the course of the day. Faced with a massive shortage of £1.4 billion in the money markets, the authorities appear to have sent out some clear signals.

Intervention in the discount market was delayed by and large until the afternoon. A purchase and resale arrangement was negotiated with the discount houses at rates which certainly did not signal any imminent cuts in rates. Late assistance totalled £190 million. The authorities' move can be seen as a straight - and hostile - response to market calls for lower rates; three-month interbank rates fell ½ of a point to about 11½ per cent.

The Government Broker also strode onto the gilt market floor in late afternoon to announce two new taples: £250 million of Exchequer 10½ per cent 1997, and a similar amount of Conversion 9½ per cent 2004. The late 1990s stock may be worth buying on hopes of a flattening yield curve, but traders were dismayed by the appearance of the 21st century stock, recalling as it does the unpopular long tap which has just been exhausted. The dollar crisis has apparently forced the authorities to tap the market via "dog" stocks.

The market now perceives that the authorities are up to their old tricks again, and poised to tap it heavily. Worse, the Treasury and Bank of England are incapable of supplying a rationale to the market, since they appear now to have forsaken exchange rate targeting, and a replacement policy is not yet to hand.

Pound jumps 5 cents in wake of finance ministers' accord

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The foreign exchange markets moved sharply yesterday, in response to the weekend meeting of the Group of Five finance ministers and central bankers.

The threat of concerted intervention against the dollar sent the American currency down sharply. The pound gained 7 cents on Friday's close in early, hectic trading, later settling back to close 5½ cents up on the day at \$1.4295. Later in New York, the pound was quoted at \$1.4370.

The initial switch out of dollars was predominantly into sterling. Later, however, a fall in money market interest rates in London, and speculation about an early British base rate cut, moved the focus to the European currencies.

The dollar lost 12 pennings against the mark, falling to DM2.72. The dollar also plunged against the yen, the rate falling from ¥240.1 to ¥231.6.

The "swishes of the markets" response meant that there was no call for the big five industrialized countries to use the concerted intervention against the dollar they agreed upon in New York on Sunday.

The only positive action

yesterday was by the US Federal Reserve Board, which arranged \$2 billion of customer repurchases, a move interpreted as reinforcing official encouragement for lower US interest rates.

For much of yesterday, the foreign exchanges sought clarification of the Group Five's agreement. In Bonn, the West German finance minister, Herr Gerhard Stoltenberg, said that the meeting had not fixed target zones for the dollar against other leading currencies.

However, the meeting had started with the assumption that the dollar was overvalued against most currencies, he added.

In London, the Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, said that the United States had moved to a position where it was more in favour of concerted intervention.

Mr Lawson also hinted that the dollar's fall would not be met at least in the early stages, by interest rate cuts in other countries.

The Treasury has emphasized that British base rates will be kept at levels necessary to maintain the downward pressure

on inflation. Yesterday, money market interest rates initially fell by ½ points, closing ¼ points down.

The three-month interbank rate closed at 11½-11¾ per cent, with the one month rate, at 11½-11¾ per cent, in line with current base rate levels of 11½ per cent.

The Bank of England left its money market dealing rates unchanged, and there is a general feeling in the European money centres that interest rates will not be reduced for the time being, because of the risk of jeopardising the dollar's correction.

At yesterday's closing levels in Europe, the dollar was about 30 per cent below its peak level this year against the mark, and 40 per cent below its 1985 peak against the pound. Even so, it is still considered to be overvalued.

Despite the threat of intervention action, the US budget deficit is still regarded as essential if the dollar's overvaluation is to be corrected.

The stockbrokers, James Capel, said yesterday that the main effect of the Group of Five agreement may be to stop further dollar rises.

Opec fears recede

The weakening dollar has offered the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) a chance to avert a split within its ranks and maintain its present price and output agreements.

Opec Ministers are due to meet in Vienna on October 3 with its consumers - the oil consuming nations anticipating a cut in the present \$28 a barrel official price for light crude.

Saudi Arabian discount deals and extended credit and

barter deals offered by other Opec members brought the effective price for large volume orders down by between \$3 and \$2.50 a barrel.

The Vienna meeting had been expected to develop into a hard-bargaining session with each Opec member demanding price flexibility.

A weaker dollar - all oil deals are dollar denominated - now means that Opec will be more united in keeping its oil price as high as possible.

Fleet questions United figures

By William Kay

On the eve of the final closing date for United Newspapers' £290 million takeover bid for Fleet Holdings, owner of the Express group of newspapers, Fleet shareholders have received a letter from the chairman, Lord Matthews, casting grave doubts on United's recent profit figures.

Lord Matthews has taken the unusual step of reinforcing his criticisms with a letter from Fleet's auditor, Touche Ross & Co. Mr Ian Irvine, Fleet's managing director, is a former senior partner of Touche Ross.

The criticisms were made on three counts. For the year, for the first time, United will have to write off goodwill in its balance sheet.

As the goodwill is too large to write off in one chunk against reserves, they will have to be written off over a period against profits. Lord Matthews suggests a write-off of £3.9 million a year over 20 years. None was



Ian Irvine

allowed for in United's half-year profit of £19.3 million, and the company's auditors subsequently drew directors' attention to the omission.

United's interim profit included £1.7 million of profits from Fleet, reflecting United's 20 per cent stake in Fleet. But, Touche points out, this is not permissible unless the investing

company has "significant influence" over the company whose shares it holds.

United's figures include £752,000 of extraordinary profits for the six months ended June 30. Yet on January 1, sold shares in Trident Television, producing what would normally be regarded as an extraordinary profit of £4.2 million. Lord Matthews comments: "It would appear that significant costs have been netted against this profit. What is the cause and nature of these undisclosed costs?"

A spokesman for Morgan Grenfell, United's merchant bank, said last night: "On good will, the United board simply has not made up its mind how to treat it. There are a host of alternatives. The inclusion of a proportion of Fleet's profits was cleared with our auditors, and full details of the costs offset against the Trident profit will be disclosed in United's annual accounts, in accordance with normal practice."

Warning on insurance tax relief

By Richard Thomson

Thousands of life assurance policy-holders could find their monthly premiums rising by 15 per cent, the Association of British Insurers said yesterday. The policies affected would be those issued in the hours before midnight of March 13 last year, when life assurance premium relief was abolished.

The Life Insurance Council of the ABI met yesterday to discuss the Inland Revenue's refusal to allow tax relief on the policies concerned.

Mr Michael Oppie, secretary general of the council, said: "The meeting considered bringing a test case to the courts on the issue but rejected it. More life offices will now be writing to policy-holders to warn them of what is happening and in many cases this will be a prelude to asking policy-holders to pay premiums gross."

About 100,000 policies are in dispute, involving £60 million of potential tax relief. Since March 13 last year most insurance companies have been paying the extra 15 per cent to the policy-holders from their own funds in the hope that the revenue would relax its stance.

There is a growing recognition in the insurance industry that life companies have underestimated the revenue's determination to deny tax relief on disputed policies.

When the Chancellor announced in last year's budget that life assurance premium relief would disappear, thousands of investors rushed to take out policies. The revenue claims that many contracts were not completed before the midnight deadline and do not therefore qualify for tax relief.

Willis Faber to raise £7m from agency sale

By Allison Eadie

Willis Faber, the Lloyd's broker, has agreed to sell its underwriting managing agency business to the present management for approximately £7 million. The sale represents one of the biggest divestments yet at Lloyd's.

All brokers have to sell their underwriting managing agencies by July 1987 in accordance with the Lloyd's Act.

Seven syndicates will be managed by a new company Wellington Underwriting Agencies and an eighth - syndicate 570 - will go to the present underwriter's agency M. G. Cockell & Co. The syndicates

have a capacity of more than £200 million.

Mr David Palmer, chairman of Willis, said the stable of syndicates was one of the biggest and unquestionably one of the best performing at Lloyd's. In the recently reported 1982 results, all the Willis syndicates made a net profit.

Mr Peter Miller, the chairman of Lloyd's in an address given in Houston, Texas, to the Annual Marine Insurance Seminar again attacked the United States legal system, which he said did not give an insurer reasonable treatment.

Europe dole queue may rise to 19m

By Our Economics Correspondent

This year's *Employment Outlook*, published today by the Paris-based Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, contains the usual mix of heavy gloom and slight glimmers of hope.

The gloom comes in the forecast of continuation of the upward trend in the jobless total in the industrialized countries, as the decline in US unemployment - which has offset rising European unemployment over the past couple of years - comes to an end.

The dole queues in Europe are set to reach a postwar high of more than 19 million in the second half of next year, the OECD predicts, while unemployment in the OECD member countries as a whole will head up to 31.5 million. To put this in perspective, unemployment levels in 1970 were 5 million in Europe and 10 million for the OECD as a whole.

The *Employment Outlook* also identifies the areas where unemployment is most prevalent. For young people, the unemployment rate, at just 17 per cent on average in the OECD, is twice that for the whole workforce.

The OECD's analysis also shows that only a strong overall recovery in employment is likely to reduce long-term unemployment, particularly among the young.

The glimmers of hope in the report come from the matching of the OECD's policy prescriptions with things that are actually being done. Thus, the sections on employment growth and small firms and labour market flexibility could well have been lifted straight from the Employment Secretary Lord Young's briefcase. The OECD also provides support for Britain's policy of attempting to bring the relative wages of young people more in line with their marginal product.

NEWS IN BRIEF

P&O raises Ocean stake

Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company yesterday bought another 3.25 million shares in Ocean Transport and Trading, equal to a 3 per cent stake. This takes P&O's total holding in Ocean to just under 13 per cent. In April, Sir Jeffrey Sterling, P&O chairman, said that it "wide of the mark" to speculate that his company would make a full bid for Ocean. Its stake was then 10 per cent.

Sir Jeffrey, who was recently reappointed special adviser on financial and industrial matters to the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, explained yesterday that the latest block had been offered in a block "and we accepted".

Market report, page 17

Parker Knoll up

Parker Knoll, the furniture maker, lifted profits from £2.30 million to £3.60 million before tax in the year to July 31. Turnover rose from £40.9 million to £43.2 million and the final dividend is 6.5p, against 6p. Tempus, page 17

Menzies rise

Three retailers announced higher profits yesterday. John Menzies increased its result from £3.5 million to £4.2 million before tax in the 26 weeks to June 30, while Combined English Stores lifted its profits from £2.30 million to £3.44 million in the 28 weeks to August 10. For the same period, Freemans, the mail order company, reported profits of £11.9 million, against £9.22 million before tax. Tempus, page 17

Schroders, the merchant banking group, has been appointed by the Treasury to handle the sale of the Government's remaining 23 per cent stake in Cable and Wireless.

GT Unit Trust

Because of a message processing error our report yesterday on Italian bourse problems suggested that James Capel, the London stockbroker, is managing GT Unit Trust Group. Capel does not.

Crowther bid

We have been asked to point out that John Crowther is proposing to buy Carpets International's United Kingdom subsidiary and that Interface Flooring Systems, which controls 41.3 per cent of Carpets voting equity, has agreed to vote its stake to Crowther, not sell it. Potential rival bidder, Harlepool-based PMA, is still working on a possible counter-offer.

AGB

The year has begun satisfactorily at AGB Research, the consumer and industrial market research company. Mr Bernard Audley, the chairman, said in his annual review.

Unit trust sales

Unit trust sales continued to forge ahead, with record gross sales for August of £314.3 million.

Bankers defy the Old Lady

The Bank of England faces an embarrassing mini-revolt by the City banking community over its request for permission to talk to banks' auditors while the issues surrounding the banker-supervisor-auditor relationship are being discussed.

This was always going to be one of the most sensitive of supervisory changes proposed in the wake of the Johnson Matthey Bankers affair, for it cuts right across the delicate client-auditor relationship. But the Bank of England seems to have made a bad tactical mistake by writing to banks last month asking them to give supervisors access to their auditors when discussions on the consultative document containing the new proposals have not even begun.

Bankers are taking the view that the letter prejudices the issue and in effect devalues the discussions. The big clearing banks, presumably deciding that there is safety in a degree of anonymity, are giving the thumbs down to the Bank of England's request in the form of a letter from the Committee of London and Scottish Bankers.

Hot off the typewriter, and apparently signed by Philip Wilkinson of Nat-West, who chairs the chief executives' committee, the letter makes clear that the CLSB members feel it would be inappropriate to give blanket approval when discussions have not been concluded.

However, the banks would consider making case by case arrangements if specific issues arose.

Many merchant banks and foreign banks appear to be relaying in similar vein, although it seems that the message has not quite sunk in down at Threadneedle Street. Doubtless it will, once the CLSB letter is received and digested.

Discussions on the issue of supervisors talking to auditors are due to begin in a couple of weeks with a meeting between the British Bankers' Association and the Bank of England. The resistance of the accountants themselves. They are concerned that the relationship between client and auditor would be hopelessly compromised if auditors were to behave like a supervisory spy in the camp.

However, most are deeply concerned at the prospect of auditors being able to talk to supervisors without the bank in question knowing. This point has already been forcibly made by some of the accountants themselves. They are concerned that the relationship between client and auditor would be hopelessly compromised if auditors were to behave like a supervisory spy in the camp.

The banks are also unhappy at the prospect of having to pay greatly increased fees to their auditors, a likely development arising from some of the new supervisory proposals.

Doubled profit for Evered

By Patience Wheatcroft

Evered Holdings, the engineering company, which heads a consortium party with more than 20 per cent of TI Group, lifted its first-half pretax profit from £1.09 million to £2.5 million. TI makers of Coda cookers and Raleigh cycles, made £12.6 million pretax in the same period.

Yesterday Evered's chairman, Mr Raschid Abdullah, repeated that his company viewed the holding in TI as "a strategic investment". He added that Evered intended to keep its options open: "No decision about the possibility of a takeover has yet been taken."

Evered holds 14.73 per cent of TI, having built up its stake over the summer. It is believed to be in concert with the Saudi Arabian Zahid family.

The interim figures from the ambitious Evered showed sales up from £23 million to £43.65 million in the half-year. Brookhouse came under pressure in North America and margins fell from 10.8 per cent to 5.3 per cent.

Tender sale defended

N. M. Rothschild, the merchant bank, yesterday replied to criticism by two rival and perhaps not disinterested banks, of the method chosen to launch St Ives on the stock market.

Rothschild maintains that the minimum tender method of flotation is more suitable than a fixed price offer for sale because there are no directly comparable listed companies.

St Ives is unusual in having both an excellent profit record and good growth prospects.

Rothschild sensing therefore, the kind of stag hunt witnessed when Mr Paul Hamlyn floated Octopus, and an inflated premium when dealing began, also opted for a tender on that account.

The issue, for which application lists open and close on Thursday, will attract a considerable response. The minimum tender price for the 2,267,000 shares offered is 290p and the striking price is expected to be as high as 320p.

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS		MAIN PRICE CHANGES		CURRENCIES	
FT Ind Ord	9953 (+8.9)	RISER:		London:	
FT All Share	84.2 (+0.63)	Fergabrook Group	32p +5p	£ \$1.4255 (+0.0510)	
FT Govt Securities	1292.1 (+0.6)	Cont Microwave	38p +50p	£ DM3.8881 (-0.0208)	
FT-SE 100	1292.1 (+0.6)	Blundell-Pernio	103p +13p	£ Sfr3.1881 (-0.0130)	
Bargains	106.32 (-0.31)	Feedex Agricult	33p +3p	£ FFfr1.8624 (-0.0599)	
Datasystem USM	106.32 (-0.31)	Caparo Inds	30.50p +2.50p	£ Y22.78 (-0.09)	
New York		Beatson Clark	158p +13p	£ Index: 83 (+1.1)	
Dow Jones	1311.7 (+14.0)	Cive Discount	40p +3p	New York:	
Tokyo		Bulmer HP	164p +12p	£ \$1.4370	
Nikkei Dow	N/A	Falcon Inds	28p +2p	£ DM2.7225	
Hong Kong		Scantronic	73p +5p	£ Index: 134.5 (-5.1)	
Hang Seng	1535.45 (-14.01)	Oceanic Group	62p +4p	ECU 20.571350	
Amsterdam	215.8 (-2.7)	Coats Patons	144p +9p	SDR 20.753895	
Sydney: AO	959.7 (+14.01)	Pressac Holdings	80p +5p		
Frankfurt		Boustead	66p +4p		
Commerzbank	1538.9 (-13.9)	Bolton Textile	17p +1p		
Brunswick		Amber Day	8.75p +0.50p		
General	490.34 (-10.08)	Monument Oil & Gas	18p +1p		
Paric CAC	218.2 (-1.8)	Parker Knoll 'A'	200p +10p		
Zurich		Speyhawk	273p +13p		
SKA General	407.30 (-8.9)	Phoenix Timber	90p +4p		

GOLD		FALLS:	
London fixing:		HB Eltn Compt	43p -5p
am \$328.10pm - \$327.45		Bespak	140p -15p
close \$327.25 - \$327.75 (E228.50 - 229.00)		Maxprint	15p -2p
New York:		Cpu Computers	30p -3p
Comex (futures) \$326.15		TDS Circuits	188p -15p
		Ind Fin & Inv	138p -12p

freemans

Interim Consolidated Financial Statement for the 28 weeks ended 10th August, 1985

£000's	28 weeks ended 10th August 1985	28 weeks ended 11th August 1984
Turnover	208,696	176,774
VAT	24,109	20,528
	184,587	156,246
Trading profit	12,659	9,883
Share of profit of related company	548	
Interest payable	1,345	664
Profit before taxation	11,862	9,219
Taxation	4,843	4,149
Profit after taxation	7,019	5,070
Interim dividend 2.3p per share	1,646	2.0p
Earnings per share	9.8p	7.2p

GOOD PROGRESS ALONG GROWTH PATH

- ★ SALES advance by 18.1%
- ★ PROFIT BEFORE TAX up 28.7% - includes share in profit of new joint venture Together Limited
- ★ PROFIT AFTER TAX UP 38.4%

Freemans PLC 139 Clapham Road London SW9 0HR

INTERIM RESULTS

Freemans steals the glory from stores

The outlook elsewhere is clouded by the performance of Forgemasters which now looks unlikely to meet the breakeven target before interest in the current year.

...the chairman, is Gabicci's push into the young man's high-fashion business with the launch of Coconut Club. The fashion show will be led by Mr. Bernard Segal, a well-known designer for that end of the clothing market.

Imperial Group gained 1p to 94p. Mr Chris Alexander at L. Messel & Co, the broker, has trimmed his current year forecast by £4 million to £225

Imperial Group gained 1p to 94p. Mr Chris Alexander at L. Messel & Co, the broker, has trimmed his current year forecast by £4 million to £225

The stock market would be more impressed if Parker Knoll could back its claims to steady growth prospects and a new image by acquiring a new textile business, preferably one that is well known.

The outlook elsewhere is clouded by the performance of Forgemasters which now looks unlikely to meet the breakeven target before interest in the current year.

month of the launch of a market research company, Diagnostics Market Research. Michael Peters now has nine separate companies within the group.

Granada G TV rental

Granada has about one fifth of the British television rental market. In May last year it bought Rediffusion from BET for £120 million and now runs

The proposed offer values OEM at £15.3 million. Tomkins increased its stake in OEM to 8.16 per cent last month.

Mr Joseph Gold, chairman of provincial, says that a replacement for Mr Golby has not been decided but it appears the resignation may leave the way open for the appointment of a younger deputy chairman. Mr Golby was responsible for writing the company's annual report and Mr Gold says that this will change.

Name _____ Company _____
Position _____ Address _____
Tel. No. _____

NOTES:

- 1) Profit on ordinary activities before taxation includes profit on the disposal of interests in properties amounting to £252,000 (28 weeks ended 11 August 1984 £316,000, including profit arising from sale and leaseback arrangements).
- 2) The interim dividend for the year ending 25 January 1986 of 2.45p (1985/1986p) per Ordinary share will be paid on 21 December 1985.

Combined English Stores Group PLC, 1-6 Clay Street, London W1H 3FS. 01-486 333

Group of Five finance ministers draw up blueprint for currencies and trade

The following statement was issued by the Group of Five finance ministers and central bank governors after their meeting in New York at the weekend.

Ministers of finance and central bank governors of France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States met on Sunday in the context of their agreement to conduct mutual surveillance and as part of their preparations for wider international discussions at the forthcoming meetings in Seoul, Korea. They reviewed economic developments and policies in each of their countries and assessed their implications for economic prospects, external balances, and exchange rates.

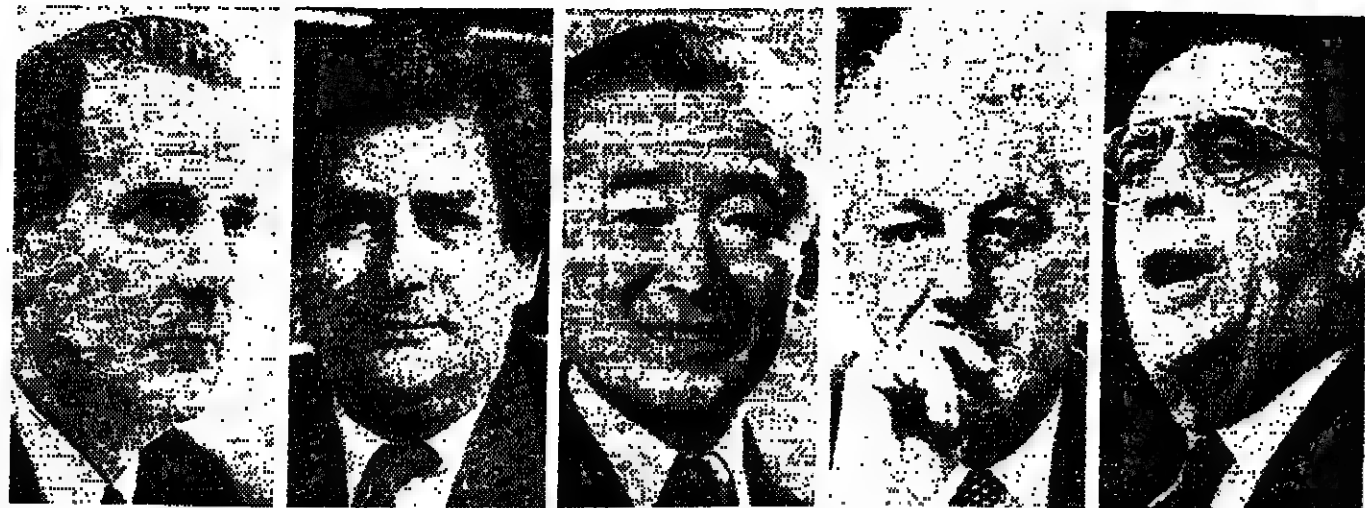
At the Bonn economic summit in May 1985 the heads of state or government of seven major industrial countries and the President of the Commission of the European Communities issued an economic declaration towards sustained growth and higher employment. In that declaration the participants agreed that:

"The best contributions we can make to a lasting new prosperity in which all nations can share is unremittingly to pursue, individually in our own countries and cooperatively together, policies conducive to sustained growth and higher employment."

The ministers and governors were of the view that significant progress has been made in their efforts to promote a convergence of favourable economic performance among their countries on a path of steady noninflationary growth. Furthermore, they concluded that their countries are restoring the vitality and responsiveness of their economies.

As a result of these developments, they are confident that a firm basis has been established for a sustained, more balanced expansion among their countries. This sustained growth will benefit other industrial countries and will help ensure expanding export markets for developing countries, thereby contributing importantly to the resolution of problems of heavily indebted developing countries.

They believe that this convergence of favourable economic performance has been influenced increasingly by policy



The Group of Five finance ministers - from left, Mr James Baker (US), Mr Nigel Lawson (Britain), Mr Noboru Takeshita (Japan), Dr Gerhard Stoltenberg (West Germany), M. Pierre Bérégovoy (France).

initiatives undertaken by their countries. Moreover, each of their countries is committed to the implementation of further policy measures which will reinforce favourable convergence and strengthen the sustainability of the current expansion.

Ministers and governors were of the view that recent shifts in fundamental economic conditions among their countries, together with policy commitments for the future, have not been reflected fully in exchange markets.

Recent economic developments and policy changes. Ministers and governors expect that real growth in aggregate for their countries will be about 3 per cent this year, compared to negative growth of -0.7 per cent in 1982. Although this figure is down slightly from 1984, growth will be more balanced than at any time in the last four years. After the particularly rapid US growth of 1983-4, there is now increased evidence of internal growth in the other countries.

In particular, private investment has picked up strength. The current expansion is occurring in a context of fiscal consolidation; it is not dependent on short-lived fiscal stimulus. As a result of the changes in the components of growth, real growth in their countries can be expected to remain strong as US growth moderates.

The current sustained expansion is occurring within a framework of declining inflation, a phenomenon that is unprecedented in the past three decades. Inflation rates are at their lowest in nearly 20 years, and they show no signs of reviving.

There has been a significant fall in interest rates in recent years. Apart from welcome domestic effects, this has been particularly helpful in easing the burden of debt repayments for developing countries.

This successful performance is the direct result of the importance given to macroeconomic policies which have reduced inflation and inflationary expectations, to continued vigilance over government spending, to greater emphasis on market forces and competition, and to prudent monetary policies.

These positive economic developments notwithstanding, there are large imbalances in external positions which pose potential problems, and which reflect a wide range of factors. Among these are: the deterioration in its external position which the US experienced from its period of very rapid relative growth; the particularly large impact on the US current account of the economic difficulties and the adjustment efforts of some major developing countries; the difficulty of trade access in some markets; and the appreciation of the US dollar.

The interaction of these factors - relative growth rates, the debt problems of developing countries, and exchange rate developments - has contributed to large, potentially destabilizing external imbalances among major industrial countries. In particular, the United States has

a large and growing current account deficit, and Japan, and to lesser extent Germany, large and growing current account surpluses.

The US current account deficit, together with other factors, is now contributing to protectionist pressures which, if not resisted, could lead to mutually destructive retaliation with serious damage to the world economy; world trade would shrink, real growth rates could even turn negative, unemployment would rise still higher, and debt-burdened developing countries would be unable to secure the export earnings they vitally need.

Policy intentions
The finance ministers and governors affirmed that each of their countries remains firmly committed to its international responsibilities and obligations as leading industrial nations. They also share special responsibilities to ensure the mutual consistency of their individual policies.

The ministers agreed that establishing more widely strong, noninflationary domestic growth and open markets will be a key factor in ensuring that the current expansion continues in a more balanced fashion, and they committed themselves to policies toward that end. In countries where the budget deficit is too high, further measures to reduce the deficit substantially are urgently required.

Ministers and governors agreed that it was essential that protectionist pressures be resisted.

Ministers recognized the

importance of providing access to their markets for LDC exports as those countries continue their essential adjustment efforts, and saw this as an important additional reason to avoid protectionist policies. They welcomed the GATT preparatory meeting scheduled for late September and expressed their hope that it will reach a broad consensus on subject matter and modalities for a new GATT round.

In this context, they recalled and reaffirmed the statement in the Bonn economic declaration on the debt situation. "Sustained growth in world trade, lower interest rates, open markets and continued financing in amounts and on terms appropriate to each individual case are essential to enable developing countries to achieve sound growth and to overcome their economic and financial difficulties."

The ministers agreed that they would monitor progress in achieving a sustained noninflationary expansion and intensify their individual and cooperative efforts to accomplish this objective. To that end, they affirmed the statements of policy intentions by each of their countries.

Conclusions
The minister of finance and central bank governors agreed that recent economic developments and policy changes, when combined with the specific policy intentions, provide a sound basis for continued and a more balanced expansion with low inflation. They agreed on the importance of these improvements for redressing the

large and growing external imbalances that have developed. In that connection, they noted that further market-opening measures will be important to resisting protectionism.

The ministers and governors agreed that exchange rates should play a role in adjusting external imbalances. In order to do this, exchange rates should better reflect fundamental economic conditions than has been the case. They believe that agreed policy actions must be implemented and reinforced to improve the fundamentals further, and that in view of the present and prospective changes in fundamentals, some further orderly appreciation of the main non-dollar currencies against the dollar is desirable. They stand ready to cooperate more closely to encourage this when to do so would be helpful.

The British policy statement is as follows.

The United Kingdom Government, noting that the British economy has been experiencing steady growth of output and domestic demand over the past four years, will continue to pursue policies designed to reduce inflation; to promote sustained growth of output and employment; to reduce the size of the public sector; to encourage a more competitive, innovative, market orientated private sector; to reduce regulation and increase incentives throughout the economy; and to maintain open trading and capital markets free of foreign exchange controls.

In particular, the United Kingdom Government intends:

- To operate monetary policy to achieve further progress towards price stability and to provide a financial environment for growing output and employment; and to business monetary policy with a prudent fiscal policy.
- To continue to reduce public expenditure as a share of GDP and to transfer further substantial parts of public sector industry to private ownership.
- To reduce the burden of taxation in order to improve incentives and to increase the efficient use of resources in the economy.
- To take additional measures to improve the effective working of the labour market, including the reform of wages (councils and improvements in youth training) and implement proposals to liberalize and strengthen competition within financial markets.
- To resist protectionism.

COMMODITIES REVIEW

Salomon challenges at the Opacs game

Whether it has anything to do with the parlous condition of oil prices is uncertain, but there has been a sudden burst of activity at the more exotic end of the oil market.

Salomon Brothers - its less exalted half is the commodity trader Phibro - has recently issued a novel line in crude oil warrants, options by any other name. And, under the pressure of these and other events, the International Petroleum Exchange in London is pressing ahead with its second crack at a crude contract.

The Salomon move has a certain pre-emptive quality, but that is not the main reason for issuing the warrants. The move is interesting because it is an early example of many possible hybrids involving the financial and the commodity aspects of negotiable instruments.

Phibro-Salomon is, of course, well placed to push out such paper, not least because of its placing power. The fact that Salomon Brothers is technically handling the issue for Phibro-Energy tells the story.

The offering comprises 16,000 call and 16,000 put warrants to buy or sell West Texas Intermediate crude, a grade widely marketed in the United States - it is the basis of the New York Mercantile Exchange's successful futures contract - but not much traded elsewhere.

Each option allows the holder to buy or sell 1,000 barrels of WTI, with a choice of two exercise dates (May 13, 1986 and December 14, 1986) and two strike prices (those of settlement at the agreed exercise date).

At the end of last week the May exercise price was between \$24½ and \$25½ a barrel. The May 1986 contract on NYMEX was trading at around \$25½.

But the crucial part of the operation is that Salomon will make a market in the options. We are so accustomed to seeing commodity exchanges all over the place pop up with options - most recently and increasingly in London - that the idea of what amounts to an over-the-counter market is arresting. In effect, Salomon is challenging the exchanges at their own game.

The firm has tried this before. It has issued European Currency Unit and Sterling - Mark warrants in the past. But those were aimed mainly at financial businessmen.

The oil option puts and calls (Opacs) are meant to appeal to industry as much as to finance. Since WTI is widely used and traded in America, options could be used as price insurance by refiners of products from all parts of the barrel and by traders proper, as well as by consumers.

On top of that, Salomon hopes that Opacs will attract banks with energy - secured loans. The past two years have demonstrated that many American banks effectively have a long position on oil, and portfolio managers wanting to hedge the energy-related sections of their portfolios.

It is too early to say whether the idea will catch on. The obvious drawbacks are the pricing, which London sources felt was too far out of line with futures prices, and the liquidity of the market.

While the august house of Salomon is developing these OTC markets (in addition to its presence in one form or another on futures markets), the IPE is struggling for the second time to devise a workable, good old-fashioned crude oil futures contract.

At present the competition is not direct, chiefly because the IPE contract will be based on Brent crude, a kind of mirror image of WTI since it is the most widely traded crude outside the United States.

Fear of the direction oil prices are taking has caused IPE members to put pressure on the secretariat to come up with a contract. A proposed contract based on cash settlement on the index which has been circulating for months has been circulated to members. They are due to meet on October 3 to decide whether to proceed with the contract and, as expected, they agree to do so. It could begin trading around the end of next month.

In the end, however, both the IPE and Salomon face the same problem. Have they got the product right? Does it in fact offer the price protection users say they need? But there is a difference. For Salomon, Opacs are a sideline, albeit intriguing.

For the IPE, much more is riding on the crude contract. Its ambitions to develop a full range of futures and options contracts covering the whole refining margin would suffer if crude flops again.

Michael Prest

HILLARDS
1885
1985
Centenary Year Records

Record profit before tax	£7.7m
Earnings per share	up 34%
Dividends per share	up 21%
Scrip issue of 1 for 1 approved	

Biggest ever new store construction programme underway.

The annual report for 1984-85 may be obtained from the Secretary
HILLARDS plc
Span Lane, Gomersal, Cleckheaton, West Yorkshire BD19 4PW

APPOINTMENTS

Sheffield Insulations: Mr Ray Duffin has been named sales director.

Panocan Storage & Transport: Mr John Hillyer becomes finance director.

Macey Williams: Mr Ian Watson becomes a director on October 1.

Exco International: Mr Paul Myers, chief executive of Garimore Investment Management, and Mr Jack Wilson, chief executive of London Forfeiting Company, have been appointed to the board.

Marley Extrusions: Mr John Greenrod has been made technical director.

Antocks Lairs: Mr Peter Wake has been made financial director.

Peat Marwick: Mr James Nelson (Glasgow office), Mr William Bowman (Aberdeen office) and Mr Mark Hopton (Birmingham office) have been appointed partners from October 1.

Samuel Montagu: Clive Badcock and Mr Christopher O'Malley have been made executive directors.

National Westminster Bank: Mrs Jean Parker, chairman-designate of the Confederation of British Industry's smaller firms council and a member of the CBI's East Midlands regional council, has become a director of the bank's eastern regional board.

TABS: Mr Roberto Segre has been made managing director. County Bank: Mr Chris-

topher Maynam is to join the board as director and head of trading in the capital markets division.

Shanks & McEwan Group: Mr Roger Hewitt has joined the board.

Legal & General Assurance Society: Mr Emrys Wynn Owen and Mr Andrew Reid have been appointed members of the South and West Advisory Board.

Boddingtons: Mr G. L. Corlett, chairman and managing director of Higgsens Brewery, has been made a non-executive director. Mr Corlett, who retires as managing director of Higgsens on September 30, will continue as chairman.

Christie, Manson and Woods: Mr Charles Allsopp and Mr Noel Annesley have been appointed deputy chairmen.

Roatlex: Mr Nigel Proudlock has been made chairman of Belco Manufacturing Company.

APC International Group: Mr Robin Maxwell has become secretary and group financial controller.

British Health-Care Export Council: Mr Michael Williams has been appointed director general from October 1. He will succeed Mr David Pollington.

George Wimpey: Mr Roger Neil has become finance director of Wimpey-Dublier and Dr Michael F. Cleverley has been appointed a director of Wimpey.

COMPANY NEWS

● **W. CANNING**: An interim dividend of 1.15p (1.1p) is declared for the six months to June 30. With figures in £000, turnover was 21,094 (19,018). Gross profit was 5,493 (5,044). Pretax profit was 1,125 (1,100) and earnings per share were 4.2p (5.3p).

● **WILKES BROS**: An interim dividend of 1.75p (1.5p) is declared for the six months to July 27. With figures in £000, turnover (excluding VAT) was 9,530 (8,638). Pretax profit was 315 (271). Earnings per share were 5.9p (4.8p).

● **CONTINENTAL MICRO-WAVE (HOLDINGS)**: The dividend for the year to June 30 is 2.25p (1.8p), making 4p (3.3p). With figures in £000, turnover was 8,739 (8,550) and pretax profit was 708 (433). Earnings per share were 20.3p (17.7p).

● **BEATSON CLARK**: An interim dividend of 3.3p (same) has been declared for 26 weeks to June 29. With figures in £000, total sales were 17,184 (15,608). Trading profit was 2,829 (1,800). Pretax profit was 741 (298). Earnings per share were 6.7p (2.6p).

● **PANTHERELLA**: An interim dividend of 1.5p (1.3p) is declared for the six months to June 30, payable on January 3. With figures in £000, turnover was 2,085 (1,604). Profit before tax was 315 (232). Earnings per share were 4.6p (3.4p).

● **GOODHEAD PRINT GROUP**: With figures in £000, turnover for the year to May 31 was 21,094 (19,018). Gross profit was 5,493 (5,044). Pretax profit was 896 (641). Earnings per share were 8.5p (5.6p).

● **HB ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS**: For the half year to June 30, an interim dividend of 0.5p (same) is declared, payable on November 25. With figures in £000, sales were 12,482 (12,295) and trading profit 100 (140). Pretax profit was 30 (120). Earnings per share were 0.5p (1.2p).

● **CHRISTIE HUNT**: No dividend (nil) has been declared for the year to June 30. With figures in £000, group turnover was 4,025 (3,957). Group profits before interest and tax were 261 (198). Earnings per share (fully adjusted) were 4.3 (2.1).

● **METAL-RAN GROUP**: For the six months to June 30, an interim dividend of 0.7p (0.69p) adjusted for scrip is declared. With figures in £000, turnover was 17,167 (14,045). Pretax profit was 1,551 (1,304) and earnings per share 2.8p (2.14p).

● **SPRING RAM CORPORATION**: An interim dividend of 0.65p (0.55p) has been announced for the six months to June 29. With figures in £000, turnover was 12,738 (8,972) and pretax profit was 1,827 (1,282). Earnings per share were 6.6p (6.1) restated.

BHP rises on bid talk

Sydney (Reuters) - Mr Brian Linton, managing director of Broken Hill Proprietary, yesterday advised shareholders not to sell their holdings in the company which is currently the subject of takeover speculation.

He said BHP had been the subject of two bids by Mr Robert Holmes a Court.

Shareholders who stayed with us on those occasions are between Aus\$ 1.00 and Aus\$ 6.00 better off, he said.

Mr Linton added that BHP management was keeping a close watch on the share register in the wake of heavy trading last week.

Last week, several brokers said that Adelaide Steamship Co and Mr Holmes a Court's Bell Group between them held about 14 per cent of BHP.

Share buying in BHP continued yesterday with the share price rising 14 cents to \$7.54.

The BHP share register lists the Holmes a Court as holding 42.6 million shares, equal to 4.1 per cent issued capital.

Pentos sales continue

Pentos, the industrial holding company, is selling the Akerman and Jeavons and Gurners business of Messengers (Birmingham) to a new company, A and J Gurners, for more than £250,000.

The sale is in line with the company's policy of divesting those businesses that do not fit in with long-term plans. Disposals so far this year should bring in £2 million, Pentos said.

Evered Holdings plc

INTERIM REPORT
HALF YEAR TO 30TH JUNE 1985

The unaudited results of the Evered Group, prepared under the historical cost convention for the first six months of the financial year ending 31st December 1985, together with comparative figures are summarised below:

	1985**	1984	1984
	Half Year	Half Year	Year
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Sales	43,655	23,008	63,351
Net Operating Profit	3,407	1,544	4,636
Interest Payable (net)	(983)	(454)	(1,193)
Profit before tax	2,504	1,090	3,443
Taxation	(493)	(281)	(1,084)
Profit after tax	2,011	809	2,359
Minority Interest	-	-	(10)
Earnings	2,011	809	2,349
Dividend	Ordinary - Interim 1.25p	0.70p	0.70p
	- Final -	-	1.60p
Earnings per Ordinary Share	8.2p	*5.8p	*12.2p

Turnover and Profit by Class of Business

	1985	1984	1984
	Half Year	Half Year	Year
	Turnover	Profit	Turnover
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Industrial Products	21,884	1,985	32,628
Investment Services	11,917	889	16,078
Other Activities	9,854	523	14,644
	43,655	3,407	63,351

PRE-TAX PROFIT UP 130%
EARNINGS PER SHARE UP 41%
INTERIM DIVIDEND INCREASED BY 78%
TRADING MARGINS SHOW OVERALL INCREASE

York House, 38/42 Chertsey Street, Guildford, Surrey GU1 4HD

**Exchange rates as at 30th June 1985.
*Based on a weighted average of 19,979,950 ordinary shares in issue during the period.
†Based on a weighted average of 19,979,950 ordinary shares in issue during the period.

Energy seminar for exporters

The Department of Energy is to hold seminars designed to help the United Kingdom offshore supply industry compete successfully for export orders in the growing world offshore exploration industry.

The two-day seminars, first of a series, started yesterday in London. A total of four seminars will be held in London.

Mr Alick Buchanan-Smith, the Energy minister said: "These four seminars offer an unparalleled opportunity to any company wishing to become a serious force in world offshore markets."

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	11.75%
Admiral Company	11.75%
Barclays	11.75%
BCCI	11.75%
Citibank Savings	11.75%
Consolidated Credit	11.75%
Continental Trust	11.75%
Co-operative Bank	11.75%
C. Hoare & Co	11.75%
Midland Bank	11.75%
Nat Westminster	11.75%
TSB	11.75%
Williams & Glyn's	11.75%
Citibank NA	11.75%

† Mortgage Base Rate.

ATLANTA INVESTMENT BRIEFING

Sponsored by
ATLANTA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
Wednesday, September 25, 5-7 pm
INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL LONDON
TEA AND REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED

Laporte

GROWTH CONTINUES

- * Profit £27.3m - up 23%
- * Interim Dividend 3.2p per share - up 33%

"I am confident that 1985 will again be another year of substantial progress and growth for the Laporte Group."

...R. M. Ringwald, C.B.E. Chairman

PRE-TAX PROFIT £ MILLION

Year	Pre-tax Profit (£ million)
80	10
81	15
82	20
83	25
84	30
85	35

FULL YEAR

HAIF YEAR

LAPORTE

Specialist Chemicals and Related Services - Worldwide
Laporte Industries (Holdings) PLC, Hanover House, 14 Hanover Square W1R 0BE.

What is underpinning United Newspapers' share price?

It can't be earnings per share performance.

In the June 1985 Management Today survey of company earnings per share growth, United ranked only 221st out of 250 (Fleet ranked 8th).

It can't be newspaper circulation.

The August 1985 MMC report showed that the circulation of United's newspapers has plummeted since 1980.

Morning papers down 13%

Evening papers down 13.5%

Paid-for weeklies down 14%.

It can't be asset backing.

Net tangible assets per share have fallen to 25% of their 1982 level.

When you pin down United's share price, where is the substance?



FLEET HOLDINGS PLC.

Fleet puts shareholders first.

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THE TIMES Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E
1	DRAPERY AND STORES			1	DRAPERY AND STORES				
2	DRAPERY AND STORES			2	DRAPERY AND STORES				
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40	DRAPERY AND STORES			40	DRAPERY AND STORES				

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £2,000 in Saturday's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	TOTAL

BRITISH FUNDS			
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price

SHORTS (Under Five Years)			
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS			
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS			
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price

UNDATED			
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price

WEEK-LINKED			
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price

BANKS DISCOUNT HP			
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Shares drift

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Sept 16. Dealings End, Sept 27. Contango Day, Sept 30. Settlement Day, Oct 7.
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

BUILDING AND ROADS							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

FINANCE AND LAND							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

FOODS							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

CINEMAS AND TV							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

DRAPERY AND STORES							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

ELECTRICALS							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

FINANCE AND LAND							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

FOODS							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

HOTELS AND CATERERS							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

INDUSTRIALS A-D							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

INDUSTRIALS E-H							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

INDUSTRIALS I-L							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

INDUSTRIALS M-P							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

INDUSTRIALS Q-T							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

E-K							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

L-R							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

S-Z							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

OIL							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

OVERSEAS TRADERS							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

INSURANCE							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'G							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

PROPERTY							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

LEISURE							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

MINING							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

SHIPPING							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

SHOES AND LEATHER							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

TEXTILES							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

TOBACCO							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHERS							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

THE TIMES Portfolio

Claims required for +36 points
Claimants should ring 0254-53272

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

OIL							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

OVERSEAS TRADERS							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

INSURANCE							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'G							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

PROPERTY							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

SHIPPING							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

SHOES AND LEATHER							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

TEXTILES							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

TOBACCO							
1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E

COMPUTER HORIZONS/1

Symphony error puts Lotus out of harmony

By David Sanger

Lotus Development said last week that thousands of copies of a new version of its Symphony Business software program had a serious flaw that could cause users to lose large amounts of data.

The error is an embarrassment to Lotus, which is depending on new versions of its Symphony program and its 1-2-3 program to prop up earnings this year. It appeared to be the first time that the company, the leading manufacturer of business software for personal computers, has been forced to correct a significant programming mistake in one of its key packages.

Beginning next month, users of the new Symphony 1.1 will receive a floppy diskette that will enable them to correct the problem. Copies of the flawed program on dealers' shelves are being replaced.

The company would not disclose how many copies have been sold since the program was released on July 22. But Ron Scott, a company spokesman, said all of the sold copies include the error. "We are not certain how the glitch slipped in."

Earlier versions of Symphony are not affected, Lotus said.

Troubles with the early releases of programs are not uncommon. Lotus's arch-rival, Microsoft, had a similar embarrassment last year when a major mistake was discovered in Microsoft Word, a word-processing program.

The Lotus situation comes at a time when Lotus is scheduled to introduce its newest program, Signal, a stock market tracking system.

Lotus said it became aware of the Symphony problem after users - primarily managers in large corporations - complained that some data disappeared when they performed common tasks on the program's spreadsheet, a type of electronic ledger. The tasks include inserting data into columns or rows of the spreadsheet, deleting data, or moving numbers between sections.

The company recommended that until the program was corrected users store their worksheets in the computer's memory before performing any of those operations. Lotus officials acknowledged that taking such precautions would slow the work drastically.

Contracting to grow bigger

The European computer empire strikes back. At least, the French group Thomson, Italian giant Olivetti and Britain's little Acorn company are combining to develop a standard for educational microcomputers in a small but significant bid to stop the onslaught of Japanese and American companies.

This tripartite technological grouping indicates a new mood among manufacturers: the recognition that it is only by collaboration at corporate level that they can tackle the Japanese effectively.

The Japanese, in particular, rapidly form new commercial partnerships to strengthen contract bids. One company will act as primary contractor, with the others supplying a supporting role. And they never consciously have one Japanese group competing with another for an overseas contract. So it may be that the Thomson-Olivetti-Acorn partnership could provide this blueprint which will enable European interests to weld its industrial and intellectual muscle into a cohesive marketing force.

The French, curiously enough, have recognized the problem for some time and despite their obvious nationalism have been one of the driving forces in forging European partnerships.

The Acorn European venture is modest and does not promise much except that the group will attempt to develop a standard for educational microcomputers by the end of the decade and which could be used as the foundation for a European microcomputer family.

While none of the partners will give a commitment to developing such a family of products, the only way that the standard developed by the group could be accepted by the industry is in the form of a product.

Acorn, having recovered from its financial problems of earlier in the year, seems confident that this European partnership can match anything emerging from the Atlantic or the Pacific basins.

That confidence is not misplaced. A report by consultants PA Technology last week reminded the British of their talents. The PA researchers said: "There is an opportunity here for Britain to gain a competitive advantage. We don't have a problem with the quality of graduates in the UK, but it will take 10 years before we can benefit from tinkering with the quantity. What we must do instead is make far better use of the skilled people we have, and that means organizing ourselves more effectively."

"Companies throughout the world are placing increased emphasis on the need to innovate successfully and maintain com-

This will be the first conference in the UK to discuss the concept of the Eureka high technology research effort. The French have already committed £84 million and the West German more than £250 million - all from government coffers.

The Acorn partnership proves that European marriages can be consummated. It will be emphasised by the plans of Robb Wilmot, ICL's microchip guru, who is currently scouring Europe to raise the finance and the political backing for a European microchip manufacturing company to challenge the Japanese and the Americans. The custom microchip market is expected to be worth about £5,000 million a year by the end of the decade and the Europeans seem determined to control a substantial proportion of that market - not only by putting up trade barriers, but by making sure that its electronic manufacturers are supplied from a reliable indigenous industry.

The European Silicon Structures - is also credited to France. An executive of the European arm of semiconductor giant Motorola Jean-Luc Grand-Clement was the initiator of the project and was soon joined by Britain's Wilmot. More than £554 millions has already been raised from some European venture capital groups. About another £550 million will be needed for the venture and the idea is to try to tempt the European electronic giants to make a stake.

The Dutch-based electronics giant Philips, Olivetti and the German telecommunications group Siemens are favoured partners and a British company will undoubtedly be sought to join them.

So the European high-tech empire is off to strike back.

THE WEEK

By Bill Johnstone
Technology Correspondent

pective advantage through technological change." PA Technology also stress that equally important as the new technologies is the absolute necessity for a flow of trained staff able to meet predetermined objectives.

Now it is up to UK industrialists to respond in force to a European collaborative call. In the second week in October delegates from 18 European nations will assemble in London to woo the British and attempt to get them to lower their research barriers and encourage them to marry a European high-tech partner.

Japanese quietly waiting to conquer

By Geoff Wheelwright

The predictions of imminent Japanese domination of the UK home-micro industry celebrated their second birthday last week as retailers looked forward to another Christmas season of plucking the best of British against the so-far largely unsuccessful Japanese MSX home computers.

But there should be little smugness about this turn of events as the Japanese have indicated they are in the home-micro business to stay - and that they may well be willing to sit out a period in which domestic micro manufacturers seriously damage themselves in price wars before Japanese MSX companies move into the market in earnest.

Kay Nishi, the man who heads the MSX standard, predicted last month in London that the MSX group, which includes such major Japanese manufacturers as Toshiba, Hitachi, Mitsubishi, Yamaha, Canon and Sony, will then



Kay Nishi: No great hurry

move toward making home-computer technology as acceptable and desired as home stereos and televisions.

In fact, it could well be television technology that makes microcomputers a truly mass-market product for Japanese companies. Mr Nishi said MSX companies are working on ways of actually incorporating

microcomputer integrated circuits inside the television itself. This would mean that you would only have to buy an inexpensive plug-in keyboard for the TV to have a full-functional home computer.

Mr Nishi suggests that integrating the television and computer manufacturing processes should lower the cost of production and that making computer operations an optional extra with the purchase of a TV should encourage greater use of home computers.

But MSX manufacturers hope that their machines will still be thought of as a good deal more than "goodies" to stick on a TV. Mr Nishi claims: "MSX is far more than games machines. It forms the core of a whole new dimension in computer control both in industry and in the home."

MSX will become the basis in industrial control, robotics and manufacturing - as well as home information and video systems.

The MSX group went part of the way down this road by announcing an "expanded specification" for its computers. The new specifications give the MSX machines clearer pictures, the ability to display more colours, higher speeds of operation, better music-making and more computer memory.

Is all this enough to stand up to the likes of Sinclair, Commodore and Amstrad? Sinclair, despite its financial difficulties, is still said to have more than 40 per cent of the UK home-computer market, by volume, and is reported to be increasing that margin with now-brisk sales on the cut-price QL.

Commodore is set to compete in the 128K market with its C128 machine alongside a better-handled Commodore 64.

For Mr Nishi and the rest of the MSX group, however, there seems no great hurry. They seem confident that the market for their computers will come in time.

Hopes of more jobs as IT builds up

Fears that information technology will lead to a small technical elite with jobs leaving many of the population unemployed may be unfounded, according to West German researchers.

The numbers of printers, mechanics and secretaries in West Germany have been growing even though the workforce in those areas might have been expected to dwindle as electronics took over.

Gerhard Ulrich, of the West German Institute for Labour Market Research, told a joint British-West German conference in Nuremberg last week that he foresees more jobs in making components, research and development, planning, data protection, software development and areas such as banking and insurance as they

JOB SCENE

By Anne Warden

extend their services. He saw no link between information technology and unemployment.

Neither need the new jobs be beyond the capabilities of workers who have old manual skills, said Fritz Holczyk, of the Federal Labour Institute.

A former locksmith and a former builder, for example, have become specialists in numerical control using computers, and he expected that machines would become simpler to use as the technology developed.

However, West German optimism on information technology as a source of jobs contrasts with British doubts.

"The job-creating potential is very limited indeed," Amin Rajan of the Institute of Manpower Studies at Sussex University, told the conference. He said British companies showed a definite tendency towards labour saving. Banking, one of the areas where jobs have been growing in both countries, would stop adding to numbers and perhaps shed some of its workforce unless a big rise in spending brought more demand, he said.

In the past decade an 8 per cent growth in demand for services had brought 3 per cent more jobs, but for that increase to be kept up growth would have to rise towards 12 per cent.

Plessey launches its voice-data link line

By Danny Green

Today Plessey launches equipment to set up a private national data network that can link people and computers irrespective of how far apart they are.

It can carry voice and data on the same phone lines. A stockbroker, for example, could call up share information from a remote database using a special phone, and talk to a client on the same phoneline.

The move is intended to strengthen the company's already dominating position in the big private-switchboard market and go some way to compensate for the dull prospects of its huge public switchboard, System X.

The equipment, called ISDN, conforms to the international ISDN standard. ISDN - inte-

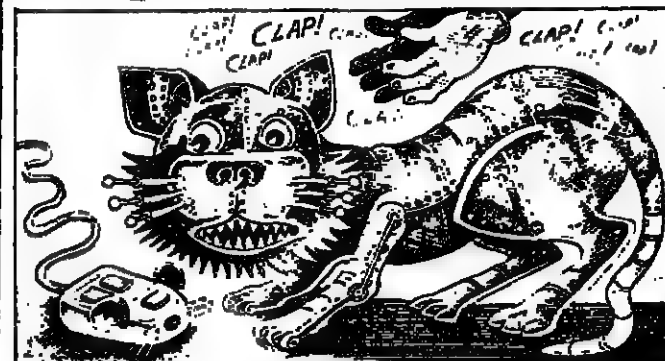
grated service digital network - has been designed by an international committee to work with different terminals - computers, phones, facsimile and many others - at the same time.

It also brings the latest digital technology to some of Britain's biggest organizations: the Bank of England and BBC's Broadcasting House, for example, recently had to buy old-fashioned analogue switchboards simply because no digital one was big enough. ISDN switchboards can cope happily with more than 3,000 incoming lines.

It should also find home and export markets quicker than is usually possible in telecom-

Continued on page 24

The purrfect robot is here

From Richard Pawson
San Francisco

Forget K-9 - the first real robot pet will be feline, and it will feature in Britain's toyshops this Christmas for less than £100.

The Petsters are the latest brainchild of Nolan Bushnell, the man who has already made two fortunes - from Atari and the Pizza Time restaurant chain - and then lost one with his first venture into personal robotics, Androbot.

At the second International Personal Robotics conference in San Francisco, he claimed to be the victim of divine retribution for attempting to create an artificial man. By going for lesser mortals like cats and dogs, the modern Prometheus thinks he can get away with it.

The first two robot cats, Petster and Petster Deluxe, are projected to achieve first-year sales of up to \$20 million (about £15 million) for Axlon, his new company. "The main problem facing the personal robot is the disparity between public perception and technological capability. The public has lower

expectations of a robot cat than of an android. "They don't ask, 'what can it do?', they want to know if it is going to be a fun companion", he said.

Accordingly, most of the Petsters' development has centred on emulating that sense of fun. The furry robot can run around, play games with its owner and its sound sensors are accurate enough to find its owner when beckoned nine times out of 10.

The various operating modes are activated by clapping your hands: one clap wakes up the cat, two means "come here", three for "go away" and so on. The owner can select a personality from: happy, angry, sad or perverse; and the robot will gyrate in time to music.

The fun conceals some aggressive marketing policies - this time Mr Bushnell is serious about making a profit.

Information about new additions and software will be issued through a Petsters Owners' and Trainers' Association and Mr Bushnell's answer to reliability and repair is to sell you a Petster health insurance policy.

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Qualification and Experience Requirement

Good Computer Degree. Computer Systems Experience in Financial Environment. To control assignments, manage consultants, develop the Company's technical capability and creatively participate in Marketing activities. Remuneration in excess of £20,000

Aged up to 40 Ref. A592

SYSTEMS ANALYST
Qualification and Experience

(Multi-National - Thames Valley). Degree level. Pre or Post Sales or Systems Analysis role with 32-Bit Minicomputer Systems in Real-Time and/or UNIX. Communications and Fortran expertise an asset. Analysis of customer requirements and preparation of hardware and software configuration. Presentations and demonstration. Remuneration up to £15,500+ Car.

Requirement

Aged up to 34 Ref. A742

SALES EXECUTIVE
Qualification and Experience

(Multi-National - Thames Valley). Degree level. 2 years over performance selling 32-Bit Minicomputer Systems in Real-Time and/or UNIX Applications. To sell 32-Bit Supermini-Computers in Technical, Scientific, Research Sectors. This includes hardware and software systems. Remuneration £35,000 OTE + BMW Car.

Requirement

Aged up to 35 Ref. A732

SYSTEM SUPPORT SPECIALIST
Qualification and Experience

(Multi-National Company based Home Counties). Primary Degree or HND. System Engineering; expected with IBM hosts 360/370/4300 Series or Plug Compatibles and Peripherals. Good understanding of modern data communications practice (e.g. SNA, X.21). To provide Hardware and Software Support Internationally for High Speed Laser Printing Systems. Remuneration c.£16,000+standby Allowance

Requirement

Aged up to 38 Ref. A652

TECHNICAL PROGRAMME & SYSTEM SUPPORT SPECIALIST
Qualification and Experience

(Multi-National Company based Home Counties). HND or Good HNC Data Communications (e.g. Ethernet SNA, A sync, Bi-sync or Protocol Conversion) to mainframe host. Good General Systems Software and Data Processing Knowledge and Work Experience. High Level System Problem Solving and Negotiating Skills on International Basis. Remuneration c.£16,000.

Requirement

Aged up to 38 Ref. B812

Please write to James M. Greig or Telephone: 01-388 1927.

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500 Chesham House, 150 Regent Street, London W1R 5FA.

Husky Computers is the world leader in the manufacture of rugged hand-held computers. Our customers range from major corporations to small businesses, with applications from sales information systems to agricultural research. Our worldwide commercial success since its introduction has been based on our commitment to ensuring that users get the maximum benefit from our products.

To further this policy, we are expanding our routine applications department to form a new Systems Division with responsibility for turnkey systems and customer support.

To lead the division we need a

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To qualify for this exciting career position you will need extensive experience of managing project teams developing computer applications, including experience of the use of microcomputers. A working knowledge of data communications would be of great benefit. Whilst your primary responsibility will be the business management of your project teams you will also need to be able to contribute technically from time to time. Reporting to the Managing Director, you will work closely with our sales team and our customers.

Please apply to David Viewing, Managing Director, at the address below:

Other important career positions available at HUSKY include:

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£13k+car
Understanding our customers' needs is the key to our business. Working in our new Systems Division our analysts translate application concepts into reliable projects. You will need substantial systems analysis experience in microcomputer applications and a capability of working closely with our customers to define their requirements. Please apply to Eric Brown, Senior Project Manager.

ANALYST/PROGRAMMER

£11k
Working as part of a project team in our Systems Division, you will produce software to agreed specifications for our hand-held computers and supporting computer systems. You will need at least 3 years microcomputer programming experience in high and low level languages. Please apply to Eric Brown, Senior Project Manager.

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£12k
Contributing to our unique operating system design team meeting the demanding and specialised requirements of future hand-held computers. You will need to be capable of working with complex hardware/software interactions where fluency in machine language is essential. Please apply to John Batterbury, Software Manager.

To qualify for the above positions you would be likely to have a suitable degree in a related discipline, have a bright outgoing personality and be capable of working in small teams where self motivation is essential. Help with relocation costs is available where appropriate.

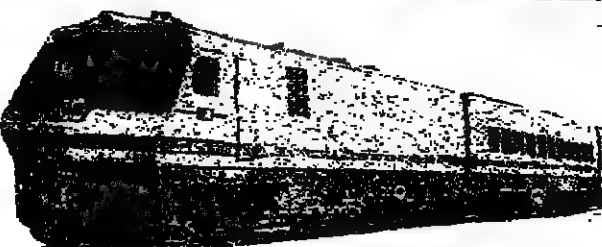
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Telephone: Coventry (0203) 668181 Telex: 317450 Husky G

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The company is moving into new premises and consequently require a number of CICS professionals to work on an IBM 3083 system running MVS/SP with CICS. Programmers or Analysts experienced with PLI COBOL or Assembler skills in an IBM environment are required and can be based in CICS. There is also an urgent need for Analysts experienced in order processing or inventory systems and Systems Programmers with MVS experience.

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Consultancy to£18K
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CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN THE SOUTH

PROJECT MANAGER

C LONDON, to £35,000+car & mortgage subsidy

Company: Major north American banking corporation breaking new ground in the areas of investment banking and banking technology.

Position: Project Manager responsible for project planning, budgeting control and progress reporting. Management from definition through to implementation of a transaction processing system, investment banking system based on a DEC VAX network.

Experience: Management of a large financial project essential preferably in investment banking or stock broking. Knowledge of real-time systems & integrated database together with strong man management & liaison/communications skills.

General: Outstanding opportunity to become involved in the latest areas of technology in a position which has built career growth. Ref T13362

PROGRAMMERS / SNR PROGRAMMERS C LONDON, 22-15K ANY COBOL

Company: One of the largest and most successful computer services companies - dealing with all hardware groups and commercial business application areas, staffed with competent and dynamic professionals.

Position: Programmers and Senior Programmers to work on major projects playing an integral part in a small team working from inception to implementation. Analysis involvement will be limited to experience and the desire to progress.

Experience: Programming - 5 min-2 yrs Cobol experience, gained on mainframe equipment. Preference will be given to candidates with COBOL or IBM backgrounds. However, any machine experience will be carefully considered. Snr. Prog. - 3 yrs plus with the emphasis being heavier on COBOL & IBM experience.

General: These opportunities must be carefully considered by candidates with hardware/application experience limited to one or even two users, as in the past this type of person has benefited considerably. Work includes involvement on both client site and in house, and because of the variety of hardware employed and the scope of applications, can lead to fast promotion, higher salaries and a certain prosperous future. Ref T1230

CONSULTANTS West & Central £12-28K JUNIOR CONSULTANTS London + car

Company: Software Consultancy part of a National Corporation offering stability and a good career path to Junior Consultants & Consultants.

Position: General Consulting including pre/post sales support & training. The products are totally portable and the job will involve developing financial models based on the company's existing products.

Experience: Smart and efficient with experience in Financial/Accounting/Decision support systems, probably having come from a programming background. There are positions available at all levels especially at the senior/junior range with approx. 3-4 yrs. Accountants with DP experience may be suitable.

General: Well established firm working around all types of hardware. Candidates need to be flexible and customer aware. Support Analysts will be seriously considered. Ref T1346

SNR. SYSTEMS ANALYST

Central London To £25,000 + car & mortgage subsidy

Company: Major north American banking corporation breaking new ground in the areas of investment banking and banking technology.

Position: System analyst to undertake feasibility, analysis, design and staff supervision of a major real-time system, investment banking system based on a DEC VAX network.

Experience: Strong analysis and design gained in a financial environment. Knowledge of real-time transaction processing in broking or investment banking. The ability to deputise for project manager essential.

General: A chance to be part of an initial 3 year development cycle leading to various new projects in the areas of investment banking. Ref T13362

JUNIOR MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT TO CONSULTANT London £10-22K

Company: One of the world's foremost organisations dedicated to specialised application areas & services.

Position: From Analyst Programmes to Consultants to assist in expanding the activities of the hi-technology group. Applicants should demonstrate a high level of academic achievement, with proven practical experience.

Experience: Minimum eighteen months Cobol, PL/1 (DOS or MVS) for Programmers to 5 years or more of practical experience for Senior positions. Application areas: manufacturing, financial and accounting, retail, energy and office automation. Experience of 4th generation languages useful.

General: Candidates, preferably graduates, will be given every opportunity to progress quickly in a stimulating and challenging environment. Salaries competitive & unlikely to present a problem. Ref T12227

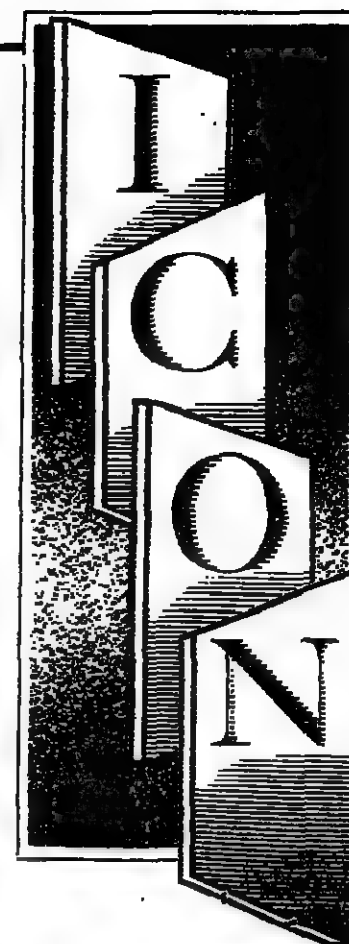
DEC POP/VAX or ANY HARDWARE-ALL LEVELS market subsidy & relocation

Company: Extremely well respected manufacturer of hardware covering mainframes, minis and micros providing solutions to Commercial Scientific & Local Government installations.

Position: A wide variety from Programmer through to Analyst/Programmer to Senior Analyst/Project Leader. All development work covering wide Commercial/business application areas. All posts offer significant involvement from initial stages through to full implementation.

Experience: At the senior levels particular hardware knowledge is irrelevant with the emphasis being on sound DP experience with good user liaison and Analysis skills. At the top end previous man management will be included. At Analyst/Programmer and Programmer levels 18 months+ exp using either POP or VAX from a Commercial environment using any language.

General: Some of the best opportunities currently available where overall knowledge can be increased in terms of hardware, software, applications & business skills. Very demanding but flexible environment offering career opportunities limited purely to ability. Salaries are excellent and the mid & senior ranges include market subsidy. Excellent training. Benefits include relocation. CONFIDENT/CAPABLE individuals only! Ref T12247



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PASCAL C	Software Programmer	London	£14K
RPGII	Senior Systems Designer	Berks	£14K+Benefits
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MVS SP	Senior Sys. Programmer	Surrey	£20K+Reloc+Benefits
HP3000	Project Manager	London	£18K+Car
COBOL IDMS	Programmer	London	£11K-Mort+Benefits
HP3000	Programmer	Essex	£12K
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We have a wide range of current requirements for people with one or more of the following: MVS DOS/VS, VM/CMS/SP, ACF/VTAM, NCP, SNA, CICS, IMS, ASSEMBLER. Positions exist from Junior (retraining for ASSEMBLER Applications Programmers) to Senior Management/Consultant level. 5 positions currently exist for DOS/VS/VM Programmers to retrain MVS. call Bruce Harrington

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ANY COBOL

£8,000-£16,000
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Our client will shortly be replacing their DP system with a VAX 6000. This is an opportunity for ambitious young professionals with at least two years DP experience to enhance their knowledge of an up-to-date system. The project will involve a network of 120 terminals at branch offices throughout the UK. If you are the ideal candidate for this position, please send your CV to the consultant. The consultancy offers a wide range of opportunities for graduates in a variety of computer-related fields.

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Plessey launches voice linkline

From page 21

communications. Users of Plessey's big-selling IDN digital switchboard, which has been sold in a dozen countries, can, says Plessey's John Hooley, be upgraded to the new ISDN by spending an extra 10 per cent over their existing capital outlay.

But ISDN runs through British Telecom lines using a signalling standard that does not fit exactly with the official ISDN, although it is technically ahead of European equivalents that do. This would prevent the setting-up of international ISDN links, which defeats one of the objectives of creating ISDN.

The in-service life of private telephone switchboards (PBX) has fallen from 15 years to eight since 1970 as microchips began to be used. Recent market reports suggest that the next big wave of buying will happen three to five years from now as ISDN gains popularity. Only one other company, West Germany's SEL, is selling ISDN kit and it is not approved for the UK.

Yet to sell beyond British Isles

Plessey has sold 1,600 IDNs into the 100-plus line market. That is a two-thirds share of a market which Mr Hooley estimates has doubled in size over the last two years to about 250,000 new lines annually. The company's main rivals are the Canadian Mitel, of which British Telecom is trying to win control, and the Swedish LM Ericsson.

After spending £300 million developing the huge public switchboard, System X, Plessey has yet to sell it outside the British Isles. And earlier this year British Telecom, which participated in the System X development programme, got government permission to adopt an alternative built by Ericsson called System Y.

ISDN can be used to fax documents 10 times faster than previously possible, or to transmit photocopied — such as Prestel but with video quality pictures, for example. Mr Hooley adds: "Only 5 per cent of ISDN applications have even been thought of."

Bitter Apple as Jobs starts again

By Andrew Pollack

In his years of guiding Apple Computer, Steven Jobs had become the epitome of the American entrepreneur, a symbol of the wealth and power that can arise almost overnight in California's Silicon Valley.

Even President Reagan recently urged the nation's youth to follow in the footsteps of those two students who launched one of America's great computer firms from the garage behind their house.

The tale of Jobs' visionary leadership at Apple came to a bitter end last week when he resigned as chairman after disclosure of his plans to start a new company.

His resignation, which followed a long corporate power struggle, exemplifies a situation common to the entrepreneur: an inability to adjust as the company grows larger and the nature of the business changes.

According to numerous associates, the same vision, drive and ego that helped Jobs make Apple into a leading personal computer company also prevented his heeding the advice of others to the point that Apple is in worse financial shape than ever.

He trusted only himself to be the high leader, said Stephen Wozniak, who founded Apple with Jobs in 1976 and has since seen his relations sour with his former partner.

Wozniak, who left Apple in February to form his own company, said that Jobs could never see himself in second place and that his devotion to pet projects made it difficult for him to make commonsense business decisions.

Jobs, a millionaire many



Steven Jobs: Saying a sour goodbye to Apple

times over at 30, lost operating authority in the spring, but remained its largest shareholder. His impatience with this reduced role led him, in the best Silicon Valley spirit, to do what entrepreneurs do best: start a new company. It was this action that caused the final rift with Apple's current management.

Silicon Valley has had its share of instant success and sudden failures. Nolan Bushnell had to leave Atari as it grew larger and more complex; and Adam Osborne left Osborne Computer in a dispute with the

this year as Apple's fortunes started to decline. It was a power struggle that Sculley has compared with a real-life version of the series *Dynasty*.

Jobs courted Sculley in hopes of providing Apple with a more experienced manager and for the first year they appeared to be in harmony.

But as Apple's financial position took a turn for the worse, Sculley came under increasing pressure to exert that seasoned authority and he seized control.

Jobs fought to regain his company by trying to enlist the board's help but by May, Sculley outmanoeuvred Jobs and the board relieved him of his operating responsibilities, leaving him just the title of chairman.

Jobs' resignation was precipitated by his dispute over plans to start a company making unspecified computer products for the higher education market — which is one of Apple's strongholds. Jobs' plan to hire five Apple employees also riled the company.

Jobs said he was starting the new company because he no longer had any authority at Apple. "The company's recent reorganization left me with no work to do and no access even to management reports," he said in his resignation letter.

While Jobs will have plenty of money and talented people from which to draw, the odds of his starting another company of the size and success of Apple are exceedingly thin in a much more competitive market than when Apple started and it is not growing as fast. Moreover, few entrepreneurs manage to strike gold twice.

Government wants the bosses to get with it

COMPUTER BRIEFING

looking upon it simply as a way of speeding up accounts or automating the typing pool.

Protecting whom?

The term "price protection", as used in the retailing business, is becoming particularly poignant among computer dealers. Price protection is supposed to prevent retailers being out of pocket when prices are cut by manufacturers or new models announced that make current products obsolete overnight.

The hefty price-cutting in home computers in particular can leave dealers with a stock bought at a trade price which exceeds a new retail price. Both Sinclair, which halved the price of its QL computer to £200, and

Amstrad, which cut £100 off its 484, have left some dealers claiming they are considerably out of pocket.

Games in a million

The rocky razzamatazz world of computer games is bracing itself for the annual Christmas sales battle. Hoping to reverse the downward trend of the past two years, four leading games software companies have decided to put their faith in old successes.

Ocean, Software Projects, Ultimate, and US Gold are each assigning games which have "combined sales" of over a million copies, into a compilation package. Entitled "They Sold a Million", the pack will be on sale early in November at £9.95 on cassette and £12.95 on disk.

Titles included on the versions for the 48K Spectrum and Amstrad are *Robotnik*, *Head*, *Desley Thompson's Decadence*, *Jet Set Willy* and *Atic Atac*. A Commodore

64 version has *Staff of Karnath* instead of *Atic Atac*.

Plugging Unix gap

A software product that enables AT & T's Unix personal computer to run programs written for IBM PC's has been developed by Alloy Computer Products Company president Richard Gorgens. He says that the inability to run programs written for IBM machines is a major weakness of the Unix system.

There are fewer than 200 software programs available for the Unix personal computer, compared with thousands for the IBM PC's. AT & T has agreed to sell the new product but it represents something of a slap in the face for the telecommunications giant which has long touted Unix as the operating system of the future because it allows several operations to occur at one time and enables users at several terminals to use a central processor.

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COMPUTER HORIZONS/3

Germans upset standard bearers

By Kevin Pearson

The decision by the West German post office to give a massive computer contract to IBM has run into criticism as the machines involved will use IBM's own networking standard.

Critics of the deal claim it undermines attempts in Europe to establish a common standard for building computer networks called Open Systems Interconnection that will enable different brands of computer equipment to be connected together.

OSI has been adopted by most of the big computer companies, including IBM, and by the EEC and the Treasury. The Government recently allocated more than £6 million for two projects designed to help UK companies develop applications to meet OSI standards.

Both IBM and the West German post office deny that the deal undermines OSI. Both say that the OSI standard has not been fully specified yet.

IBM recently announced software products that meet part of the OSI specification designed to run on large IBM mainframes.

But parts of the OSI standard are unaccounted for in IBM's thinking, the company says. It will evaluate standards for the missing bits as they are defined.

Under the West German deal IBM will supply 400 of its 8100 series networking computers over four years for modernizing the running and administration of the country's post and telecommunications systems.

British Telecom is undergoing a similar process and both IBM and ICL are involved.

In the UK a major grouping of customer associations, the National Computer Users Forum (NCUF), has urged the Government to require major operators of value added networks, such as the abandoned IBM-BT joint venture, to comply with OSI. The NCUF claims that proprietary standards such as SNA restrict competition and hamper the development of an independent UK information technology business.

Sold! To the man who never wanted it

Let us imagine that people buy cars in the same way they are urged to buy certain kinds of computer software. You have your £25,000 for a new Daihatsu and walk into the showroom.

"Good day sir," says the salesman. "I see you have your eyes on the 12-cylinder sports special". You nod accordingly.

"But has sir really thought this through? The 12-cylinder sports special is a lovely machine capable of 155 mph. But the legal limit in this country is 70. It has two fuel tanks, which makes for twice the work at the petrol station, a tachometer, oil-pressure gauge, and lots of blinking alarm lights.

"In short sir, it has a lot of excess baggage you may never use. Why not try the Bagley's special version: a two-litre engine which will take you to the legal limit comfortably, one tank, nothing but a fuel gauge and a speedometer inside, and none of that walnut stuff that needs all the polishing.



Complex software and large technical manuals can put off potential purchasers. But as DAVID HEWSON discovers, programs can be made just too simple

"The price? Amazingly enough, we don't even charge extra for tailoring this car to your personal requirements. You can still have it for £25,000."

No businessman would fall for that now, would he? Yet he may well walk out of the showroom and into the new computer store next door to meet the same routine with a piece of software and stomp up the cash. That's the phrase "user-friendliness" has now been superseded by even more pernicious concepts - software which is "so simple you can almost run it without thinking."

Any regular reader of the specialist computer press knows the kind of advertisement, along the lines of "Why pay hundreds of pounds for a program which is way beyond your needs when for two-thirds of the price, we'll give you something which is dead easy to use and adequate enough for you?"

Be captivated by these alien words at your peril. They betray precisely the kind of attitude that leaves personal microcomputers misunderstood in offices throughout Britain. In the field that I know best, word processing, the latest idea seems to be a bare-bones program for about a "mere" £50 - which can just about beat the features of a modern electronic typewriter.

Composite packages of basic office programs are already appearing. One I looked at recently, Telewriter, that cost more than £200, had a glowing review in one national newspaper. But I can't help wondering whether the writer who reviewed it really looked at the product from the user's viewpoint. Telewriter is a combined word processor and communications package.

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Adams aims to end career with a world championship title

Classical fighter with deadly style



An eyeball to eyeball confrontation as Adams gets to grips with his opponent (Photograph: Tommy Hindley)

On the day he fights for the world title he celebrates his twenty-seventh birthday and, he admits, the old hunger for medals and competitive achievement is not so intense. "I do not enjoy the training so much now - especially not when I am training like a nutcase, as I have been doing for the past few months and particularly the past few weeks."

Even when he is training at his London club, the Budokwai, the encouragement he shows to his partner can be replaced by a concentrated aggression that has brought him three world championships, two Olympic finals, 12 European championships and countless British Opens and other national titles.

The atmosphere of that particular corner of the dojo changes, and his partner experiences something akin to an electric charge, as powerful as a blow in the face. Just as suddenly Adams relaxes - but it is a moment that the man on the ground will never forget. It is a feeling that a host of fighters coming into the international arena, have experienced.

"Judo at the top level is a hard physical contact sport, and I sometimes think we must all be a little mad to go through what we do," Adams says. Just how committed Adams is to his own conditioning can be seen by the fact that in recent tests on the British team, even the younger members could not match his overall fitness.

His level of skill and tactical sense is also without its equal in this country. Though everyone in the judo world knows his moves, and all his opponents have spent hours poring over videos, his classical throws still prove effective. And in the holds, the strangles, and especially the armlocks - there is no-one in the world who is prepared to pit their wits against him.

But there remains the great enigma. Why is it that, when the world knows that he is arguably the most accomplished all-round judo fighter the West has produced for at least the period of two Olympics, he has only won one title from two Olympic Games and two world championships?

"Judo is one of the hardest sports to be consistent in because it is so demanding," Adams says. "You need speed, skill, a high level of physical conditioning - and, technically, it is the most complex sport I know. Technically, it is advancing more quickly than any other sport - you are always seeing new things which have been adapted from free style wrestling or the Russian wrestling style, Sambo, or from existing judo moves. You can suddenly be confronted with one of these new ideas and have to respond immediately - and the slightest miscalculation can result in instant defeat: judo is very much a sudden death sport."

But all this cannot compare with the enormous pressure that lies upon his shoulders every time he steps on the mat: it is this, more than anything, that has resulted in a mental stress which has tripped up Adams in a way no other can do.

In the final of the world championships in 1983, against the Japanese, Nobutoshi Hirasawa, he took a terrible shock right at the beginning, because he was much stronger than he expected. In the final of the Los Angeles Olympics, in that same first round, he just could not handle the Austrian, Wolfgang Loibner, who was throwing him as he did.

"I can only hope I have learnt from both occasions - I may have to face one or both of them in Seoul - but in all honesty, I won't know until the end of the competition. I know I want that gold medal, though I know that I won't want it too much. But it would be nice to end a career with a world championship title."

Whatever happens in Seoul, and afterwards, Adams will be remembered above all as a fighter of soft and deadly style, and an inventor of a range of deft groundwork moves that have been given the ultimate accolade of being imitated the world over.

Philip Nicksan

YACHTING

Americans send out 'panzers'

From Keith Wheatley, Perth

Yachting's equivalent of a Panzer division has arrived in Australia. Two 12-metre yachts, US42 and US44, three support boats, three masts and seven containers of gear have just reached Perth addressed to the New York Yacht Club. Fifty crewmen and technicians live in at the weekend. The battle to regain the America's Cup is on.

From next Monday the New York team will try and sail six days a week in the rough seas off Fremantle, the port 10 miles from Perth where the Cup races will begin in October next year.

The sudden dismissal in New York over the weekend of John Kollus, the syndicate's Olympic helmsman, is a mystery to the Perth camp. "We have no reaction because we don't know the full story," the project manager, Arthur Wulfschlegel, said. "We don't know whether he's gone or he hasn't."

Most of his information is coming from the Australian media, not from head office in Newport, Rhode Island.

Shipping boats and equipment alone cost the NYCC \$300,000 one way. "When it comes to logistics we work on the 'barren rock' principle," Wulfschlegel, a textile tycoon from North Carolina, said. "That is, we're going sailing on a bare rock where there is no 12-metre gear. So we bring it all with us."

US42 sailed off Fremantle last southern hemisphere summer. She was nicknamed "The Lego Boat" because of having a series of different keels. US44 was launched at Easter and sailed off to Rhode Island since then. Reports have her indefinitely fast and the club will build a third boat in December. Their total budget is \$1.3 million.

Nether boat had a keel visible during unloading but US44 had the area around the rudder post surrounded by a plywood box. The NYCC parties, questions, but an enlarged bustle to give stern lift downwind is the expert guess about what the secret is.

Meanwhile, Alan Bond's new boat, Australia III, will be launched on Friday, the second anniversary of winning the America's Cup. She is designed by Ben Lexcen, creator of the famous winged keel, and admits he is still working in that area but beyond that will say nothing.

The new 12-metre is to be presented to the public at a gala occasion on the jetty of the Royal Perth Yacht Club, now the home of the America's Cup. Bond's wife, Ellen, will launch the yacht.

By late next month syndicates from the United States, Canada, Italy and France are expected to be sailing off Fremantle. There are also three Australian syndicates who hope to defend the Cup already on the water, with one more building a new boat.

Britain and New Zealand are expected to be the last teams to arrive, early next year. However, last week's announcements in London from the Challenge syndicate earned respect here that the old country will launch a serious effort to win the Cup.

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ICE SKATING

Exciting newcomer with derring-do

By John Hennessy

Although the men's entry for the St Ivel ice international from today until Thursday is exceptionally strong the women's event will carry special interest for British followers of figure skating. We can expect triple axels galore from the likes of Brian Orser (Canada), Gregorz Filipowicz (Poland) and Falko Kirsten (E Germany), but these are familiar faces, welcome but well worn.

Debi Thomas, however, is an exciting newcomer to the world skating scene and we can take various pleasure in the fact that her mentor is an ebullient expatriate Briton, Alex McGowan, now rooted in San Francisco. McGowan guided his 15-year-old pupil to a stunning fifth place at the world championships last season.

Miss Thomas's other claims to special attention are her position, newly achieved, at Stanford University, her background as an untrained ballerina, and her unimpaired ability to compensate for that, so far as skating is concerned, since he owns a rink and is able to provide ice for her every afternoon and evening when school is over.

Her main strength is her jumping, for her long programme would ordinarily include five triples, though it may be too early in the season for such displays of derring-do. It will be disappointing, however, if she does not produce the difficult double loop triple toe loop combination in this evening's short programme.

If Miss Thomas, now lying fourth in the world with the retirement of Nancy Kerrigan, the American champion, is the obvious favourite for the women's events this week, the skaters' form of two British champions, Susan Jackson and Joanne Whalley, will be illuminating. Miss Jackson, champion these last two years, is now 20 and may find that time is running out for her. Miss Conway, on the other hand, is still a junior of only 14, for all her mature ice persona, and now that she has been admitted to the influential academy of skating presided over by the late and Christa Fassi in Colorado, her opportunities are boundless.

Miss Conway, by common consent, is the most promising woman skater this country has produced for many years (ice dancers, of course, excepted) and her first appearance in the British championship in November is



Jackson: time running out

awaited with special relish. By then she will have evolved a new programme to music more appropriate to her needs than that which she now uses.

Surveying the rest of the scene in British terms, Mother Hubbard would experience an attack of *déjà vu*. Charles Wildridge, a 15-year-old Londoner, with the parental wherewithal to provide private education to dovetail with his skating, is certainly high in potential, too, though he will surely have to wait a little longer.

Ice dance, for many years the jewel in the British crown, is at a low ebb now that Slater and Barber have followed the incomparable Torvill and Dean into retirement. Sharon Jones and Paul Ashkham, trained by Slater's mother, Joan, are the heirs presumptive but their fifteenth placing in the world championships last season is an unlikely springboard to the summit.

The Furia event remains the Cinderella of British skating. Lisa Cusley and her brother, Neil, will expect to win the British title again in November and to be allowed, as they were not last year, to plunge into international competition, but their horizon must be limited.

The St Ivel evening programmes, enlivened by exhibitions from the present world ice dance champions, Natalya Bestemianova and Andrei Bukin, feature the three short programme skaters, the original set pattern dance and free skating for women and pairs tomorrow, and, finally, the free dance and men's free skating on Thursday.

BOXING

Reggae is counted out

By Bryan Stiles

Spectators will have to dance to a different beat at the shows of the London promoter, Frank Warren, in future. Reggae music is to be replaced by national anthems for championship bouts as Warren aims to avoid the controversy which spilt last week's British heavyweight title bout at Alexandra Palace for many of the crowd.

Warren agreed with Ray Clarke, the secretary of the Boxing Board of Control, at a London press conference yesterday that the reggae music he plays at his shows could have inflamed the passions of supporters unused to attending boxing matches, causing them to block the aisles and prevent those in top-priced seats seeing Hughie Currie take the title by beating Funso Banjo.

Warren also promised to increase the security for his next promotion, the world featherweight title contest, when Pat Cowdell attempts to dethrone Azumah Nelson at the Birmingham National Exhibition Centre next month. Currie will be standing at his shows and not allowing any people who appear to have been drinking.

Isidro Rodriguez, of Venezuela, will referee the Barry McGuigan-Bernard Taylor WBA world featherweight title contest at the King's Hall, Belfast on Saturday (George Ace writes). The judges are Marco Rodriguez, from Mexico, and Franco Priami, from Montebello, Italy. Fernando Galindez also of Venezuela, is the supervisor, appointed by the WBA.

Moving a bout Bernice (Reuter) - Enrico Scacchia, of Switzerland, will now challenge the European light-middleweight boxing champion, George Steinherr, of West Germany, in Geneva on November 30. The organizers had said earlier the title bout would be on November 14 or 21.

BASKETBALL

Palace face action over coach

By Nicholas Harling

Once irrefutably the top club in the British game, Crystal Palace now find themselves with a variety of problems and the season badly begun. Knocked out of the Prudential National Cup by the rejuvenated Portsmouth squad on Friday, Palace returned home on Saturday to find the season badly begun. Knocked out of the National Recreation Centre by Happy Easter Bracknell in their first Carlsberg National League game.

Not only that, but Palace, who failed to make a Wembley appearance last season for the first time, now face disciplinary action for playing their 37-year-old American coach, Jim Guymon, who has been refused a player's licence a few days before by the English Basketball Association. Guymon, who had not played a National League game since his last appearance for Worthing three years ago, came out of retirement to score 10 points, because Palace were without their new American, Bubba Jennings, who had flown back to Texas, where he is hoping to make the grade this week with Dallas Mavericks in the National Basketball Association.

Knowing that Jennings was returning to America, possibly only for a week if he fails to earn selection, Palace had asked the EBBA if Guymon could be registered. "They were in touch but we told them they couldn't license three Americans, Jennings, Guymon and Tom Seaman," Peter Draper, the EBBA's administration officer, explained yesterday. "Our regulations don't permit it. A team can have only two foreigners at any one time."

Draper would not say what Palace's punishment might be, but there was a precedent two years ago when Leicester were deducted a point - that ultimately cost them a place in the national championship playoffs - for playing Ken Pemberton, who was ineligible at the time.

Palace, who are still searching for a major sponsor to tide them over until their move to London Docklands in two years, are in more trouble if Jennings is wanted by Dallas Mavericks. The scorer of 43 points in the defeat at Portsmouth, where Palace had led by nine at the interval, the 5ft 10in guard, who narrowly failed to make America's last Olympic squad, is obviously an invaluable asset. Without him the following night, and with Guymon restricted by influenza, Palace succumbed 97 to Bracknell, who were inspired by Scantlebury.

The past year spent developing his game at Winthrop College, South Carolina, has obviously done the 31-year-old Englishman a world of good. "I've learned to relax, to become more patient," Scantlebury said after scoring 28 points for Bracknell, whose potency on the fast break devastated Palace.

It was not until 30 minutes before the start that Andy Brown, Bracknell's coach, learned that Jennings' over whom he had drooled at Portsmouth, would not be among the opposition.

Like Guymon, Mark Stevens of HomeSpire Bolton was another American coach in trouble, incurring two technicals in the second half of the home defeat by Sharns Manchester United. There was little in it when Stevens stepped out of line, but with the help of the subsequent free shots, United opened up a gap that brought them victory by 93-73.

Portsmouth, meanwhile, continued their rampaging start to the season on Saturday. Sperrings Solent Stars going through the same way in the league as Palace had done in the cup, beaten 83-68.

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Half the problem is marketing. Another program, Comm+, produced by Lion House, took the opposite view. It was less than £200 but brimming over with so many features it was hard to appreciate them all. It needs too, a lot of hard work to understand. But once you are there it can be customized to be run by a virtual newcomer.

Why does computer software always oscillate between these two extremes? One reason, I suspect, is that computer companies, both in the hardware and software field, are more interested in selling products than in solving users' problems.

The consumer is being unsubtly primed to regard technology as a fashionable possession, something which expresses something about his or her character, instead of what it really is: a tool.

The subliminal message behind a lot of anti-and-bits software is a dangerous one: buy this and you can claim to be the computer generation without ever having had to work your way there.

The surest sign that someone is getting value for money from a piece of technology is a recognition that the set-up you have, or maybe just your use of it, has its inadequacies. Reach that stage with anti-and-bits software with no unexpected corners and you will have to go out and buy the real thing after all.

The communications program is just as basic. Simple enough to use, true. But there is no automatic log-on system to take one through the password procedures for Prestel, Telecom Gold or whatever, let alone a timer to carry out remote

operations during off-peak phone hours. There are no standard error-checking protocols - procedures designed to stop glitches creeping into what you send and receive - and no proper internal phone directory facility which can be edited and flicked through as one would with a proper phonebook.

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T 24/85

FOOTBALL: FIFA GIVEN ASSURANCES THAT COMPETITION CAN GO AHEAD NEXT SUMMER

World Cup plans unaffected by earthquakes in Mexico

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

Next summer's World Cup finals will be staged as planned in Mexico. FIFA announced their decision yesterday after receiving assurances that neither the 12 stadiums to be used in the competition, nor the hotels which are to accommodate officials, media and supporters, had been seriously damaged by the series of earthquakes.

Guillermo Canedo, the president of the Mexican organizing committee, attended the meeting in Zurich which had been arranged merely to review the progress of the extensive preparations. Although he was in Spain when the first earthquake struck, he told FIFA that his country is "still capable" of staging the tournament.

After receiving confirmation from the football authorities in Mexico, Joseph Blatter, FIFA's secretary, said that no plans will be made even to send a team to inspect the relevant areas.

FIFA's next visit will be to the capital on December 15, the day of the draw for the finals.

Italy, the holders, will therefore open their defence and the event itself on May 31 in the Aztec Stadium that stands on

the southern outskirts of Mexico City. The magnificent arena, which was being refurbished during last summer's tournament involving England, Mexico, Italy and West Germany, will also be the venue for the final on June 29.

Joao Havelange, the president of FIFA, and Hermann Neubauer, the chairman of the organizing committee, have both sent messages of sympathy to the stricken nation. They more than make up, in spite of the extent of the destruction, Mexico remains determined to act as hosts.

Dr Volker Himmelsther is another who has been spared weeks, if not months, of onerous work as well. He is a West German broker who negotiated the insurance deal that covered the finals against any possible disruption. The deal covered setbacks ranging from political revolution and legal action to volcanic eruption and earthquakes.

FIFA, who expect the tournament to gross £50 million in gate receipts, television fees, and advertising, has insured it for that amount.



Stainrod: short stay at Wednesday

Stainrod in £250,000 transfer to Villa

By Bryan Stiles

Aston Villa have signed Sheffield Wednesday's Simon Stainrod for £250,000. Stainrod played only nine full games for the Yorkshire club after joining them from Queen's Park Rangers for a then club record fee of £250,000 in February.

The Sheffield-born forward had looked set to join Barcelona, but the Spanish club changed their minds over the form of payment after the fee had been agreed. He said: "I am a centre forward who gets stuck in, and who has a bit of ability on the ball as well, and I am very much looking forward to playing with Andy Gray with his cut-and-thrust style."

Stainrod is Villa's second major signing of the season. Steve Hodge, having joined the club for £400,000 from Nottingham Forest.

The Villa manager, Graham Turner, said: "I think he has got immense ability and he is a tremendously gifted player, who has perhaps lost his way a little bit since the departure of Terry Venables from QPR. He always has been a player of ability and very much a crowd pleaser."

Stainrod could come into contention for a place in Villa's side for the Milk Cup game at Exeter tomorrow.

Stuart Morgan, the assistant manager at Bournemouth, has been named as the manager of Torquay United, taking over from John Sims, who was dismissed after 33 days in charge.

Wolverhampton Wanderers have announced the appointment of Gordon Dimbleby, the West Bromwich Albion executive secretary, as chief executive.

Rideout finds his mark in Italy

It was a triumphant Italian Sunday for Paul Rideout, who joined Bari this season from Aston Villa. He scored both his team's goals in a 2-0 win against the high-flying Roma, who had recently beaten Bari there 1-0 in the Italian Cup. Gordon Covans, recovering from a broken leg, was not playing. Only a week earlier, Rideout had been sent to the field until the second-half against Sampdoria, who beat Bari in Genoa.

Tomorrow sees an abundance of significant, even fascinating, World Cup qualifying matches in Europe. In Valencia, Spain, must beat Iceland to ensure their qualification for Mexico. A draw would eliminate them; and with the return for Iceland of the splendid Sigurdsson, in such fine attacking form for last season's VB Stuttgart, Spain's victory can be no more than a racing certainty, even if Iceland have lost both their previous away games in the group.

Over the day's activity hangs the result of the recent friendly match in Copenhagen between Denmark and Sweden. The Swedes won, catastrophically, 3-0, and if we are to take that result at its face value, Denmark in Group Six has little hope against the Soviet Union, while Sweden, at home to West Germany in Group Two, should prevail. That group also sees a fascinating match between Czechoslovakia and Portugal, each still in contention for at



Brian Glanville

least second place. Portugal, under the new management of Torres, has been the favourite to win the World Cup centre-forward in 1966, are like the Czechs, an improved team.

Prepared Eljaer, the Danish centre-forward from Verona, said after the defeat by Sweden that a number of players in his team did not seem to be taking the friendly game too seriously. This alone can give the Danes a measure of assurance and confidence for the match in the Soviet Union, recent conquerors of West Germany in a friendly. True, it was not quite the full Danish team. Michael Lundrup, now with Juventus, did not play, nor did Steen, a Manchester United. Otherwise, all the outstanding names were there, including Allan Simonsen, that marvellous little midfielder (or forward), he seems now to have recovered from the bracketed leg he sustained against France in the European Championship finals in Paris last year.

When they recently lost to the Soviet Union, the West Germans were without Karl-Heinz Rummen-

igge and Briegel, whose Italian clubs refused, to release them for a friendly game. Their presence will make the team a much stronger proposition against Sweden.

Bulgaria, in Group four, visit Luxembourg, deprived of several of their players, who were suspended for long periods after their fracas of the Bulgarian Cup Final between CSKA and Levski-Spartak. It is now felt that the Bulgarian government, rather than its federation, over-reacted, thanks to the fact that, by sheer chance, the country's president happened to watch the game on television. Top of the group with nine points against Yugoslavia's eight and France's seven, the Bulgarians seem home-and-dry.

Three days later, Yugoslavia play East Germany in a much more significant game one which could affect the fate of France, as dazzling in their early European championship matches last year, so vulnerable away from home. East Germany, who have six points, are not the greatest of travellers. They won 5-0 in Luxembourg but lost in France and Bulgaria.

A fine victory in the World Youth Cup in Moscow has backed up the Brazilians, further heartened by the return from Italy of Zico, Socrates and Falcao.

Brian Glanville is football correspondent of the Sunday Times.

United's reputation has Palace fearing the worst

By Peter Taylor

Steve Coppell fears his former Manchester United playing colleagues are about to give Crystal Palace a football lesson they will find hard to forget in tonight's Milk Cup tie at Selhurst Park.

The Old Trafford winger whose playing career was cut short by injury has been too busy knocking Palace into shape to take a first-hand look at United's fabulous form this season.

Friends back in Manchester have told him, however, that United are producing the best football they have seen for years. "I'm not letting that terrify me, though, Coppell said. 'Absolutely nobody expects us to do anything, so we have nothing to lose.'"

Coppell played alongside seven of the United men who have helped the club win their first nine division games and he admitted: "It will be emotional, but not half as much as I was playing 'Palace' has a doubt about their midfield player, Kevin Taylor, but that is nothing to the injury list threatening to curtail United's all-conquering progress."

Hogg and Strachan have joined Hughes, Giddman and Moses among the absentees, but Barnes has recovered from a swollen knee. Moran returns in defence and Olsen could be substituted after missing six games with an ankle injury.

Facing United will be Droy, who continues in the Palace defence with a broken nose suffered at Norwich last Wednesday. The big centre half is ruled out of the second leg.

United's reputation has Palace fearing the worst.

Moran: returns for United

POWERBOATING

S Africa event may be a casualty

By Bryan Stiles

The South African Formula One Grand Prix is almost certain to be cancelled seven weeks before it was due to be staged in Durban. The main reason for the cancellation is that some countries, including Sweden and Italy, will not allow their drivers to take part in sports events in South Africa.

M Jules Mawet, the secretary general of the UIM, the sport's world governing body, has called a meeting of his management committee for today in Brussels and they will make the formal decision to call off the Grand Prix. Even though Mawet refused to confirm the cancellation last night, the formula one drivers were told at the Italian Grand Prix in Milan at the weekend that their services would not be required in South Africa for the event on November 10.

"We will be considering this problem at the meeting because we have some governments who do not allow their people to go to South Africa for sporting reasons," he said.

Only the Spanish Grand Prix now remains to be contested in the series and this has been switched from October 3 to November 2.

The championship has already been decided, with Bob Spalding of Ipswich, having secured the title by gaining second place in the Italian Grand Prix. Spalding, who lost the world title in 1980, will now concentrate on improving the world placing of Bertil Wik, his partner in the Formula-Hodges, team. Wik, from Sweden, is lying joint third with 30 points, while Ben Robertson, of the United States, is second with 29 points. If Wik collects the nine points for winning in Seville and Robertson fails to secure any then the Swede will become joint runner-up in his first season in formula one racing.

LACROSSE

Red Indians playing for their pride

By Peter Taylor

The presence on the field of play of Red Indian chief Leon Simonsen, who has been named as the team's captain, will serve as a timely reminder to the English men's team in next week's World Cup final in Japan.

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Whichello, who now faces the No 4 seed, Jonathan Smith, said: "I was badly shaken up by everything that happened a year ago and I left the British scene altogether for a couple of months and took myself off to Spain. But then I was chosen to go to the United States and my career began to pick up again."

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Page, 20 Amber Cloud, 33 Snow (4th), Monday, October 26.

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Application forms and job description available from the Personnel Department, Wessex Regional Health Authority, Highcroft, Romsey Road, Winchester, Telephone Winchester 63511, Ext 350.

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A driving licence is essential for the Exeter based posts but not for those at Plymouth. Removal and disturbance allowances will be paid in accordance with usual local government conditions. Successful applicants can expect to be transferred to the Crown Prosecution Service on 1st October 1986.

Application forms may be obtained from Robert J Green, Esq., Chief Prosecuting Solicitor, Bradninch Hall, Castle Street, Exeter EX4 3PL. Telephone Exeter (0392) 77307.

Closing date: 17th October 1985

Kluwer Law is the UK legal imprint of the Dutch-based publishing group, Kluwer NV.

Applicants are invited for the position of:

EDITOR

for a series of publications covering a wide range of legal topics.

Responsibilities will include:

- keeping titles to tight publication schedules
- liaison with printers and typesetters
- liaison with contributors and copy editing
- page layout, paste-up and design

This position offers an opportunity to assume substantial responsibility for established publications, with increasing author liaison and commissioning responsibility as the list develops.

Candidates who can offer: (1) 2-3 years editorial experience in journals, newsletters or other serial publications and (2) a law degree, a professional legal qualification or a detailed working knowledge of legal publishing are invited to write, enclosing CV and details of current salary, to:

Peter Davies, Legal Publisher, Kluwer Law, 7th Floor Africa House, 64-78 Kingsway, London WC2B 6BD.

MOORING ALDRIDGE &
HAYDON
Bournemouth

We are a substantial practice with four offices in the fast-growing Bournemouth/Poole Conurbation and we need assistance in our busy tax, trust and commercial department. We are looking for a qualified lawyer with some post-qualification experience in a tax department, or newly qualified with good similar experience in Articles, who will meet our normal recruitment criteria of a sound academic background, common sense and ambition, and who will probably be City level.

Our general philosophy is one of tradition (we have passed our century) combined with a very positive attitude to the changes taking place in our profession and outside. We intend to offer the successful applicant a good remuneration package. If you think this may be for you, then feel free to telephone Barry Glazier or David Bollington on 0202 21428 for an informal discussion or to ask for our new brochure and then send a CV to Barry Glazier, Messrs Mooring Aldridge & Haydon, Westover Chambers, Hinton Road, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH1 2SD. London interviews may be arranged.

EMPLOYMENT LAW
CITY

We have been appointed by a prestigious City practice to select and introduce a solicitor of sterling calibre and good academic record. This opportunity has arisen as a result of expansion within this busy department.

In order to be considered favourably, you would need to be qualified up to 5 years and demonstrate the ability to deal with an increasing volume of matters of some complexity including non-contentious and contentious aspects of Employment Law acting both for corporate and individual clients.

The department offers a comprehensive service in Employment Law and industrial relations. Advice is given to clients who are contemplating dismissal or other disciplinary action against employees or who are faced with industrial action from their workforce.

Attractive salary together with excellent partnership prospects.

Please contact, in strict confidence, Law Personnel, 95 Aldwych, London WC2B 4JE Telephone 01-242 1281, (Ansaphone after business hours).

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The work will involve a wide range of corporate finance matters for private and public companies including Stock Exchange work, mergers, acquisitions, flotations and general commercial transactions.

We are seeking solicitors with a good working knowledge of company and commercial law and practice who have the capacity to work under pressure in an invigorating but informal environment, and to deal with clients at all levels.

The prospects are excellent for the right people who will receive a very progressive salary and benefits package.

Please apply to: The Partnership Manager, Berwin Leighton, Adelaide House, London Bridge, London EC4R 9HA.

—BERWIN LEIGHTON—

Army
Legal Corps

The Army's Legal Branch will recruit a number of lawyers in December 1985, for which a Selection Board will sit in the Autumn. Successful applicants, at least 25 years of age and preferably with advocacy experience, will be commissioned as Captains on a starting salary of £12,216, currently under review, with prospects of promotion and a full career to age 60. Further details from Lt Col David Hawley, MOD (ALSI) Empress State Building, Dept 3, Lillie Road, London SW6 1TR. Telephone (01) 385 1244. Ext 3182.

ALC Officer

West Midlands
County Council

COUNTY SECRETARY'S DEPARTMENT

(Office of the Chief Prosecuting Solicitor)

PROSECUTING SOLICITOR (5 posts)

£12,216-£15,114 - Post Ref. PS. A

ASSISTANT PROSECUTING

SOLICITOR (2 posts)

£12,216-£14,114 - Post Ref. PS. B

ASSISTANT PROSECUTING

SOLICITOR (3 posts)

£11,280-£12,183 - Post Ref. PS. C

These new posts offer excellent career opportunities within the increasing challenges and expanding field of public law. The posts are all part of a team of legal officers providing an independent and comprehensive advisory and advocacy service to the West Midlands Police throughout their Police District. Applicants, including the Chief Prosecuting Solicitor, must have a minimum of 2 or 3 years post-qualification experience in the prosecution of criminal cases, and a minimum of 2 years post-qualification experience in the prosecution of criminal cases, and a minimum of 2 years post-qualification experience in the prosecution of criminal cases. These posts are subject to the LMSG's five year probationary period. Successful candidates will be required to undertake a period of probationary service. Applications should be sent to the County Secretary, West Midlands County Council, County Hall, 1 Lansdowne Circus, Coventry, Warwickshire CV4 7BL. Telephone 02-337 2222. A 24-hour telephone answering service is in operation.

Closing date for receipt of applications: 10th October 1985.

"The County Council is a positive Equal Opportunity Employer to ensure that all applicants are treated fairly." All posts are open to female and male applicants, especially those previously not in paid employment.

YOUNG AMBITIOUS
SOLICITOR

OFFSHORE CONSTRUCTION LONDON

Howard Davis is renowned in the offshore construction industry for its quality. Due to the recent acquisitions of other companies and an increasing workload, we now seek to appoint a Solicitor to fill a vacancy in our head office.

Responsible to the Group Solicitor who is also a Director, this uniquely interesting role therefore offers scope and enormous challenge to a young person with determination and ability.

Initially you will concentrate on contractual matters concerning 4 construction and engineering locations in the UK and several overseas. There will be the opportunity in the near future to become involved in other aspects of legal and commercial work.

The ideal candidate will be in his/her mid late 20's with 3-4 years post-qualification experience in a contracting organisation. Preference will be given to those with experience in the offshore construction industry and some international exposure.

This appointment offers a competitive salary together with genuine scope for career progression. Please send your C.V. to Martin Yellup, Personnel Manager Howard Davis Limited, 17 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0BD.



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LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

Commercial Solicitor

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The UK subsidiary of a major US multi-national computer manufacturer requires a solicitor to strengthen its small Legal Department at its Head Office based West of London. Candidates will be solicitors with at least five years' post-qualification experience gained in a progressive commercial/industrial company or a commercial department in private practice. An analytical mind, ability to communicate and work under pressure with minimum supervision are essential requirements. Reporting to the Company Secretary/Legal Adviser, responsibilities will include the review and drafting of sales and commercial contracts, intellectual property, licensing and the handling

of disputes/litigation. Salary is negotiable depending on experience. Benefits include pension scheme, free life assurance and private medical scheme and a company car. Please apply in writing, enclosing c.v., to: Confidential Reply Service, Ref: AEC 609 Austin Knight Advertising UK Limited, Knightway House, Band Lane, Egham, Surrey TW20 9NX. Applications are forwarded to the client concerned, therefore Companies in which you are not interested should be listed in a covering letter to the Confidential Reply Supervisor.

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post-qualification experience - and more importantly strong commercial instincts - this is an opportunity to develop your legal career within one of the world's foremost investment companies.

The remuneration package is worth £15,000 to £20,000 plus a company car on your first promotion.

Please contact: Jo Dean, Personnel Manager on 01-928 7822 or 021-704 5181 for an application form. Investors in Industry plc, 91 Waterloo Road, London SE1 8XP.

3i

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If you have specialist expertise, or an interest in acquiring it, in commercial litigation, commercial conveyancing or company law we'd like to hear from you. There are real opportunities for you to use and develop your specialisation with us.

Ring David Marsh on 0272 276567 or write to him at Burges Salmon, Narrow Quay House, Prince Street, Bristol BS1 4AH. We can follow that up with a meeting.

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COURTS COMMITTEEDEPUTY CLERK
TO THE JUSTICES

Southend-on-Sea and Rochford Petty Sessions Divisions
£16,458 x £387 (4) - £18,006
(award pending)

The post becomes vacant on 2nd January, 1986. It represents an unusual opportunity to participate in the management of one of the busiest courts in the South East. The Clerk to the Justices, Mr D. Chandler, has taken the lead in Essex in the computerisation of court procedures; he is Training Officer (Justices) for the County; and he has been designated as Fixed Penalty Clerk for Essex. His Deputy can be assured of satisfying delegation in the running of the Office and a full and challenging workload. Applicants, preferably Solicitors or Barristers, must have considerable experience at very senior levels in the Magistrates Courts Service and must be able to offer a lively mind and constructive management style as well as an appetite for hard work and problem solving. Closing date: 4th October, 1985.

PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT
Grays Magistrates' Court
£11,094 - £12,438 (award pending)

This vacancy follows the promotion of the postholder as Deputy elsewhere in the County. The office has a busy and increasing workload and there is ample opportunity to specialise in the various aspects of management and administration. The Court is the first 'remote site' on the expanding computer network in Essex and knowledge of, or interest in, Courts computer applications would be an advantage. Applications are invited from persons who are qualified under the Justices' Clerks' (Qualification of Assistants) Rules 1979. Applicants must be competent to take all Courts without supervision and have considerable experience at a senior level in all aspects of the work of a Justices' Clerks' Office. For an informal discussion please telephone either Mr L. Bradford (Clerk to the Justices) or his Deputy, Mr D. Evans, on Grays Thurrock (0375) 33944. Closing date: 11th October, 1985.

COURT CLERK
(OR SENIOR COURT CLERK)
up to £11,433 (award pending)

This post provides an unusual opportunity to work in many parts of the very pleasant County of Essex and to deal with a mixture of urban and rural Courts. The base will be Chelmsford (an excellent centre with good train services to London) and the work will be both there and at other Courts in Essex. A car user allowance will of course be paid or, depending on mileage, a lease car provided which can also be used privately. For most of the next year, the Court Clerk will take Courts in the large and busy seaside PSD of Southend-on-Sea and Rochford during an absence on study leave. Applicants are needed with the experience and qualities to let them cover, with confidence, in all types of Courts, sometimes at Senior level. The appointment will be made at either Court Clerk grade (up to £10,758) or if experience warrants, at Senior Court Clerk grade (up to £11,433). Closing date: 4th October, 1985.

Relocation allowances are payable in approved cases. Details of the scheme will be provided to candidates selected for interview. (For guidance current limits allow over £2,500 to be claimed.) Further details and application form for all posts from Clerk of the Committee (Personnel Section), County Hall, Chelmsford, CM1 1LX. Telephone: (0245) 267222, ext. 2017.

LAW & ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT
Litigation Solicitor

Salary: £11,937-£16,851 inc

Due to restructuring a vacancy exists for a hardworking solicitor to work principally in the Social Services field but also to deal with general litigation in the Magistrates, Juvenile, County and High Courts and with some planning matters. Experience in the above fields and in local government would be an advantage. Newly qualified applicants with relevant experience will be considered. This post is subject to LMGC ring-fence procedure, with their agreement it is now being offered on an unrestricted basis. Applications are invited from anyone with appropriate qualifications or experience, but priority will be given to employees of the GLC or M.C.G.s. For further information please contact Miss Jenny Cormode. Tel: 885 8511, Ext 2293. Application forms available from Miss E. Brown, ext 2327. The closing date for this post is 2nd October, 1985. Harrow is an equal opportunities employer.

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2 SOLICITORS

Required for general commercial work, company, trusts and conveyancing. Minimum 3 yrs experience, preferably with larger city firm. We are a successful open minded 4 partner London firm anxious to expand our partnership high remuneration levels and benefits, partnership within 12 months for the committed person who should have a sense of humour, good academic record, and a common sense approach to life. Please write with C.V. to Box 0362 L The Times.

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CITY

We have been instructed by a major City practice with an enviable reputation in this field of Law. They need to augment their substantial department with a solicitor with a minimum of two years post qualification experience.

The appointee will assist in the conduct of Patent and Industrial Copyright Litigation, Passing Off and Trademark Matters, as well as Intellectual Property Licensing.

The successful applicant will possess commercial awareness, flair and imagination and an ability to work under pressure whilst retaining a sense of humour. A good academic background is obviously essential.

The salary offered is certainly above the going rate and this position would suit an ambitious lawyer.

Please contact, in strict confidence, Law Personnel, 95 Aldwych, London WC2B 4JE. Telephone 01-242 1281. (Answerphone after business hours).

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The sheer size, diversity and complexity of our operations means that the role will always be lively and demanding, offering a range of work not likely to be found in private practice. The need to travel overseas from time to time will arise.

The salary is negotiable and the employment package is good. Ring James Elworthy or Terry Taylor on 01-684 5922 or write in confidence with career details to Mr T. Taylor, Balfour Beatty Construction Ltd., 7 Mayday Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey CR4 7XA.

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THE JOB involves mainly civil litigation including matrimonial ancillary applications, contested County Court, QBD and Chancery Division litigation.

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THE SUCCESSFUL APPLICANT will be experienced in dealing with litigation with a minimum of supervision, and in legal aid.

THE SALARY will be up to £14,000 per annum. A car will be provided.

Please apply with full C.V. to

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Telephone 0252 725040



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Merchant Investors Assurance is a progressive unit-linked life and pensions company which is part of the world-wide Nationale Nederlanden Insurance Group, who have assets of over £10 billion.

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In addition to a competitive salary, a range of benefits will be offered including BUPA and flexible working hours.

Please submit a full CV including current salary to:

J. R. T. Miller, Personnel Manager,
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& HIGHLY NEGOTIABLE

Our clients, who include the major firms in both Accountancy and Legal Professions are currently recruiting administrators/assistants for their tax, trust, probate and private client departments a good university degree preferred but not essential. Ideally, applicants should have some experience of administering trusts, preparing accounts and/or handling all tax related matters in an accountancy, banking or legal background. In some instances training will be given, a keen interest is subject essential.

For further information please contact:

Claire Wiseman or Frances Beuvink on
01-623 4295
GABRIEL DUFFY Consultancy
17 St Austins Lane, Cannon Street,
London EC4N 8AL.

ROCHESTER UPON MEDWAY
CITY COUNCIL
CITY EXECUTIVE
DEPARTMENT

CEO11

Law Clerk

Salary up to £7,329

The City Council recently completed a major review and restructuring of its services prior to moving to the new Civic Centre in October 1985.

A slim and dynamic organisation is now established consisting of a new City Executive's Department and three major service departments.

The Legal Section, which forms part of the City Executive Department, has a vacancy for a Law Clerk. The position is ideally suited to an Associate of the Institute of Legal Executives although applications from those who have passed the Law Society's final examination and wish to be arried will be welcome.

The main duties of the post relate to litigation in the County Court and instructing Counsel; draft contracts; dealing with routine conveyancing matters including mortgage redemption, sale of Council land, etc., therefore some practical experience of conveyancing would be advantageous.

If you are enthusiastic with sound generalist experience we would like to hear from you.

Bring Benefits (in approved cases) include:

- *Temporary Housing Accommodation
- *100% Removal Expenses
- *Up to £360 Relocation expenses
- *Up to £2,000 Legal/Agents' Fees of sale and purchase
- *Up to £30 per week lodging allowance (maximum 3 months).

The City Executive Department is currently situated at the Council Offices, Frindsbury Hill, Strood, but all departments of the Council will be moving into the new centralised offices at Strood later this year.

Application form, job description, etc., can be obtained from the Personnel Services Manager, Council Offices, Frindsbury Hill, Strood, Rochester, Kent ME2 4HR. Telephone: Medway (0634) 715754 (24 hour service).

Closing Date: 7th October 1985.

Solicitor

South Coast from £15,000

As one of the major societies in the UK, the Gateway Building Society has assets in excess of £1,350m and over 140 branches countrywide. Forthcoming legislation, which will open new opportunities and challenges to Building Societies, prompts us to make this first appointment of a legal professional to our Head Office staff.

Although initial duties will principally be concerned with Mortgage Advances, there will be considerable scope for further professional and career development.

Ideally aged around 30, your appropriate professional qualifications should preferably be followed by sound experience and knowledge of the house purchase processes.

Supplementary to a modern working environment in our attractive location, to which we will provide assistance with relocation where appropriate, we offer a salary upwards of £15,000, depending on level of experience, plus benefits which include concessionary mortgage, BUPA membership, and excellent pension scheme.

Applicants should send comprehensive details of career to date, or telephone for an application form to: Mr M.J. Gould, Assistant General Manager, (Personnel & Training), Gateway Building Society, Administrative Centre, PO Box 18, Worthing, West Sussex BN13 2QD. Tel: Worthing 88555 ext 4302.

OLIVER DIMDORE
LITIGATION SOLICITORS

We have 4 offices in Essex and we are seeking able and energetic solicitors of partnership calibre to develop and expand our litigation departments.

The work is wide and varied and includes occasional advocacy.

We are looking for solicitors prepared to be wholly committed towards practice expansion in all its aspects, and offer rewards commensurate with such commitment including car, generous expenses allowance, and definite partnership prospects.

Apply with full CV to: Oliver Dimdore, 182 Hutton Road, Shenfield, Brentwood, Essex. CM15 8NS (Ref KD)

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Substantial City of London practice seeks a solicitor in the age range 30 - 36 to whom assurances of partnership can be made. The strength of the firm's property practice has produced a continually expanding workload. This now necessitates the recruitment of a senior solicitor, possibly already a partner, who is adept in dealing with substantial property clients in the public and private sectors and who can instil confidence.

The post is open to those justifying a salary between 25-40,000 pounds.

Applications for this post, quoting Ref: C/171, are to be made to Reuter Simkin Ltd., 26-28 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4HE, telephone 01-405 6852 who are instructed to conduct first interviews and prepare a shortlist.

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Perth, Western Australia

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Parker & Parker,
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PERTH WA 6001.
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SERVICES

HED FISHER Maritime Frontiers

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Black sections would be tragic says Hattersley

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr Roy Hattersley said last night that the establishment of black sections would be a tragedy for the Labour Party. They were an affront to the pride of the black and Asian British and, because they categorized, classified and separated men and women according to their race, should be anathema to all socialists, he said.

Mr Hattersley, Labour's deputy leader, was speaking in Birmingham the day after an unofficial black section was set up in his Sparkbrook constituency in the city.

In a reference to that decision, taken at a meeting from which several leading Asian members of the constituency party walked out in protest, Mr Hattersley said that

in Sparkbrook the demand for a black section could only be sustained by a public meeting largely composed of and principally addressed by speakers from outside Sparkbrook.

"The overwhelming objection to black sections is that they divide us when we should be united. The idea of exclusively black groups holding separate meetings, sending their own delegates to the local Labour Party and organizing their own conference is repugnant to the vast majority of my Asian constituents," he said.

The uncompromising terms of Mr Hattersley's rejection seem likely to heighten the tension between the pro- and anti-black section campaigners before next week's debate at the party conference.

Greenpeace evidence 'missing'

Continued from page 1

Reaction yesterday to his admission of the French intelligence service's responsibility for the sinking of the Greenpeace ship *Rainbow Warrior* was not so much on what he had said as on what he had not said. What everyone wanted to know was who gave the orders?

The Government had evidently hoped that Admiral Lacoste's dismissal would be an indirect answer to that question: hence the great interest in M Villeneuve's high-profile assertion that it was not a member of the military.

M Alain Savary, the former Education Minister, said yesterday: "In an affair as serious as this, the military could not have acted without reference to a very high political level. It is a wretched affair for France and its institutions."

Regret over the damage the scandal is doing to France was also expressed yesterday by M Bernard Tricot, author of the official inquiry, which exonerated the Government and the intelligence branch from all involvement.

"I feel as if I have been made a laughing stock," he said. Yes, that is all I can say. I feel a deep sadness when I think of the friends I met, some of whom I am afraid did not tell the truth.

Tories keen to improve their image

Continued from page 1

failure of all of us." But he placed some blame on the news media for "the problem in getting across the reality and truth of what the Government has been doing."

The Charter Movement, which has campaigned for several years to improve democracy within the Conservative Party, challenged Mr Tebbit to do for the party what he did for trade unions as Secretary of State for Employment, and make it accountable to its members.

Mr Eric Chalker, speaking for the movement, said that it would again hold elections at Blackpool for the party officers' posts, including Mr Tebbit's position of chairman and that of the new deputy chairman, Mr Jeffrey Archer.

He said that the party's achievement in trade union reform was weakened by the hypocrisy with which it called for democratic rights to be given to members of other voluntary organizations and refused the same rights to its own members.

Train death

A girl believed to be aged about 12 fell to her death from a train on her way to school half a mile from Colchester North

Alice's secret portrait revealed



The author's drawing of Alice over which he pasted her photograph.



Carroll's last photograph of Alice, with (left) one of his illustrations and the famous interpretation by Tenniel.



Alice did not begin her famous adventures all at one in Wonderland. First of all she was, more prosaically, under ground.

The story of the story is well enough known: how Charles Lutwidge Dodgson and his friend Duckworth took the Liddell girls rowing on the Isis from Oxford to Godstow on a "golden afternoon"; how Dodgson made up Alice's adventures as they went along; and how, at her insistence, he turned the whole improvisation into a book.

But he did not just think up a suitable *non de plume* and send the manuscript to a likely publisher. *Alice's Adventures Under Ground* was copied out in an easily legible longhand as

a present for Alice: "A Christmas Gift to a Dear Child in Memory of a Summer's Day" as the dedication put it.

Space was left for illustrations which Dodgson drew himself with much effort, and much naive attractiveness; the sheets were bound in green morocco leather and the book given to Alice on November 26, 1864.

While this work was going forward *Alice in Wonderland* was also taking shape - a more elaborately planned story, twice as long as the manuscript original, and illustrated by John Tenniel. But Alice's manuscript was not forgotten, and it has developed a history of its own.

A hundred years ago Carroll borrowed it from Alice, who by that time had become Mrs Reginald Hargreaves, and prepared a facsimile edition which Macmillan published in 1896.

In 1928, when the fortunes of the Hargreaves family were in decline, Alice put the manuscript into Sotheby's where it was sold to the dealer, A. S. W. Rosenbach, of Philadelphia, for a then record price of £15,400.

The book did not remain in America. A group of donors raised \$50,000 in 1948 and returned the manuscript, care of the British Museum.

Facsimiles of the manuscript have continued to be published; there have been five since 1986, including a paperback version first published for the equivalent

of 42p. With the centenary in mind, Pavilion Books has produced a sixth. It's a pleasant enough piece of work, even though for some inscrutable reason, the order of the title-page and dedication has been reversed. Compensation comes, though, at the other end of the book where the manuscript's chief secret is revealed.

When he first wrote out the story Dodgson appended to the final page a little drawing of the real Alice who is nothing like the girl in the illustrations. But then, perhaps dissatisfied with his artistry, Carroll pasted over the drawing one of his photographs of Alice, and those two portraits have now been printed in tandem.

Plenty to say, but no one to answer

Letter from Moscow

"I suppose when Gorbachev goes to Paris next week he'll be all smiles again," one British diplomat said with a touch of malice in the aftermath of the Anglo-Soviet treaty for ratification.

The over-worked phrase about the iron teeth hidden behind Mr Gorbachev's winning smile does express an essential truth about the Soviet leader: he is a hard man, raised in a political system where you have to be ruthless and brutal to reach the top, yet he has also proved a master of public relations on the international stage, conveying a smooth and reasonable image to world opinion.

He is the very model of a new Communist leader - educated, sophisticated, a stylish wife - as Mrs Thatcher found when he came to Britain last year.

Since Mr Gorbachev came to power in March the image has been polished further: much to the dismay of the White House, which has been left looking ham-fisted and truculent while Mr Gorbachev moves with apparent ease from disarmament initiatives to his relaxed interview with *Time* magazine.

In choosing to hit back hard at Britain over the expulsions, Mr Gorbachev evidently calculated that he could afford to offend his erstwhile admirer, Mrs Thatcher, without seriously damaging his carefully built-up image as a flexible and affable man.

There is time in any case to restore that image in France, with which Russia feels its has a special relationship, before the final round in the public relations battle: the summit with President Ronald Reagan.

Many diplomats and observers here feel the tin-foil episode with London not only revealed KGB fury over the defection of a senior agent in Britain, but also touched on a raw nerve in the Gorbachev leadership: intense national pride.

"Gorbachev wants his country to be treated like a real superpower, not like a backward nation which happens to have missiles," one American observer said. "He wants full equality."

The problem is, however, that for all his education and sophistication, and for all his fleetness of foot on the world stage, at home in Russia Mr Gorbachev is indeed operating

in an economic and social context which by Western standards is backward and outdated.

Most western visitors to Moscow feel they are stepping back in time, perhaps to the fifties, and many of the bureaucratic attitudes which hinder Russia's development are inherited from even earlier times, the days of the Tsars.

In his interview with *Time*, Mr Gorbachev noted sardonically that America was always justifying its arms programme by saying Russia was advanced in weapons technology, while denigrating Russia as a nation of recently urbanized peasants. But the paradox is a real one: both are true.

This dissonance between the old and the new emerges most clearly in the striking contrast between Mr Gorbachev's "meet the people" tours, with their new style of political debate, and the failure of Soviet people to respond.

At the Yumen oil and gas fields recently, he lectured his audience gently, joked with them, delivered impassioned homilies. The only reaction was baffled silence from the assembled apparatchiks, who bent their heads to write notes, preferring to pass on instructions rather than engage in repartee or debate - least of all with the feared leader himself.

"He talks sense," one intellectual said, watching Mr Gorbachev on television talking to farmers in Kazakhstan. "But he is talking to himself."

The only people who seem able to respond to the new sophistication are the better educated factory workers, the high-achieving "heroes of Socialist Labour" who have the confidence and knowledge to take Mr Gorbachev on.

The Russians are proud of his performance on the world stage, but have not yet grasped that at home too he is trying to behave like a sophisticated politician in a system which catches up with him and which instinctively prefers empty rituals, dull set speeches and meaningless resolutions.

Mr Gorbachev's hopes of change could rest on how long it takes to turn his one-man monologue into a genuine dialogue with his own people. As he has himself often remarked, he needs space abroad so he can concentrate on pressing matters at home.

Richard Owen

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Princess of Wales visits the Chinese Community Centre, Gerrard Street, W.1, 3.00.

Princess Anne, Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Corps of Signals, visits the 10th Signal Regiment's Headquarters at Wilton, 10.00, and squadrons at Aldershot, 2.30, and Chelsea, 3.40.

Princess Alexandra unveils the memorial erected by the Police Memorial Trust, before members of the Metropolitan Police Force in Hans Crescent, SW.1, 2.30, in the evening, to mark the 75th

anniversary of the Royal Overseas League, the Visits Overseas House, St James's, SW.1.

Last chance to see

Paintings in oil by Bruno Guattamacchi and sculptures by David Backhouse, Phoenix Gallery, Lavenham, Suffolk; Mon to Fri 10 to 5.30 (ends today).

Watercolours by Ron Jessy, the Blake Gallery, George's Lane, Cokerne, Mon to Sat 10 to 4 (ends today).

Music

Organ recital by James Lancelotti, Winchester College Chapel, 7.30.

Violin recital by Brian Underwood, Chichester Cathedral, 1.10.

Concert by Baroque Virtuosi, Repton Music School, Repton, 7.45.

Concert by the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Birmingham Town Hall, 7.30.

Organ recital by Ronald Frost, St Ann's Church, Manchester, 12.45.

Organ recital by John Scott, Hexham Abbey, 8.00.

Talks, lectures

The theatre and the people by John Drummond, Netherbow Theatre, 43 High Street, Edinburgh, 7.30.

Canterbury Festival: What is Italian opera? by Norman Platt, Old Synagogue, Canterbury, 5.

General

D H Lawrence Centenary Festival: poetry readings by Carole Ann Duffy and Susan Taylor, Beeston Library, Beeston, Nottingham, 7.30.

Exhibitions in progress

Cheltenham Art Club exhibition, Cheltenham Art Gallery & Museum, Clarence Street, Cheltenham; Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30 (ends Oct 5).

Miniature African sculptures and drawings by Josef Herman, Graves Art Gallery, Surrey Street, Sheffield; Mon to Sat 10 to 5; Sun 2 to 5 (ends Oct 20).

Down to Earth (the story of soil), Derby Museums and Art Gallery, The Strand, Derby; Tues to Sat 10 to 5; closed Sun and Mon (ends Oct 26).

Royal Photographic Society's Annual International Print Exhibition, City Museum and Art Gallery, Peterborough; Tues to Sat 10 to 5, closed Sun and Mon (ends Oct 12).

"Once in a lifetime - Halley's Comet" James Dunn's House, 61 Schoolhill, Aberdeen; Mon to Sat 10 to 5; closed Sun (ends Nov 16).

"Animals in War" - photographs, Wilshire Archaeological and Natural History Society, the Museum, 41 Long Street, Dives, Wilts; Tues to Sat 11 to 1 and 2 to 5; closed Sun (ends Sept 28).

Water progress

The British Waterways Board's 1986 calendar, featuring one large photograph per month, each with several supporting smaller views; is now available at £3 (plus 65p p&p) from the Information Centre, Press & Publicity Office, B.W.B. Melbury, Melbury Terrace, London NW1 6JX. Discounts for bulk purchases.

Aged victims

An appeal for money specifically for elderly people caught up in the Mexican earthquake disaster has been launched by Help the Aged, Cheques payable to Help the Aged Mexican Appeal should be sent to the charity at St James's Walk, London EC1R 0BE. The number issued by the Foreign Office for relatives seeking information is 01-235 5619.

The pound

Bank Bank Bank

Bank	Bank	Bank
Australia 5	28.30	28.30
Belgium 10	22.00	22.00
Canada 5	22.00	22.00
Denmark 10	14.83	14.83
France 10	12.23	12.23
Germany 10	4.81	4.81
Greece 10	194.80	194.80
Italy 10	11.35	11.35
Japan 10	271.00	271.00
Netherlands 10	345.00	345.00
Norway 10	11.35	11.35
Portugal 10	228.00	228.00
Spain 10	228.00	228.00
Sweden 10	12.07	12.07
Switzerland 10	2.25	2.25
USA 5	1.49	1.49
Yugoslavia 10	440.00	440.00

For more information bank notes only, as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC, to be supplied to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Retail prices index 376.7.

London: The FT index closed down 6.8 at 392.3.

TV top ten

Top television programmes in the week ending September 15.

Rank	Programme	Time
1	Open All Hours, 15.55m	
2	In Sickness and in Health, 15.10m	
3	EastEnders (Tue/Sat), 12.25m	
4	News and Weather, 10.00m, 11.55m	
5	Just Good Friends, 10.05m	
6	Whacker's World, 10.30m	
7	Barney's World, 10.30m	
8	Howards Way, 10.35m	
9	Dynasty, 9.55m	

Rank	Programme	Time
1	Coronation Street (Wed) Granada, 15.45m	
2	Coronation Street (Wed) Granada, 15.50m	
3	Murder, 12.55m	
4	The Great British Bake Off, 7.15m	
5	The Brothers McGregor, Granada, 12.55m	
6	Coronation Street (Wed) LWT, 12.20m	
7	Russ Abbott's Madhouse, LWT, 12.00m	
8	The Great British Bake Off, 7.15m	
9	S-1, Yorkshire, 11.30m	
10	Crossroads (Thu), Central, 11.10m	

Rank	Programme	Time
1	Buddy Holly, 5.00m	
2	Brookside (Mon) 4.10m	
3	The New Statesman, 4.00m	
4	My Brother Jonathan, 3.70m	
5	The World's Worst, 3.70m	
6	The World's Worst, 3.70m	
7	Jack High (Sun), 3.40m	
8	House of Cards, 3.30m	
9	Jack High (Sun), 3.15m	
10	Star Trek, 3.10m	

Channel 4

1. Brookside (Mon) 4.10m

2. Brookside (Tue/Sat) 4.10m

3. Man About the House, 4.30m

4. The Great British Bake Off, 3.15m

5. S-1, Yorkshire, 11.30m

6. The World's Worst, 3.70m

7. Tell the Truth, 2.15m

8. American Football, 2.00m

9. S-1, Yorkshire, 11.30m

10. Bodge, 1.30m

Breakfast television: The average weekly figures for audiences at peak times (with figures in parentheses showing the reach - the number of people who viewed for at least three minutes).

BBC1: Breakfast Time: Mon to Fri 1.4m (7.5m). TV-am: Good Morning Britain: Mon to Fri 1.2m (5.5m). BBC2: Breakfast Time: Mon to Fri 1.2m (5.5m). TV-am: Good Morning Britain: Mon to Fri 1.2m (5.5m).

Broadcasters' Audience Research Board.

Water progress

The British Waterways Board's 1986 calendar, featuring one large photograph per month, each with several supporting smaller views; is now available at £3 (plus 65p p&p) from the Information Centre, Press & Publicity Office, B.W.B. Melbury, Melbury Terrace, London NW1 6JX. Discounts for bulk purchases.

Aged victims

An appeal for money specifically for elderly people caught up in the Mexican earthquake disaster has been launched by Help the Aged, Cheques payable to Help the Aged Mexican Appeal should be sent to the charity at St James's Walk, London EC1R 0BE. The number issued by the Foreign Office for relatives seeking information is 01-235 5619.

The pound

Bank	Bank	Bank
Australia 5	28.30	28.30
Belgium 10	22.00	22.00
Canada 5	22.00	22.00
Denmark 10	14.83	14.83
France 10	12.23	12.23
Germany 10	4.81	4.81
Greece 10	194.80	194.80
Italy 10	11.35	11.35
Japan 10	271.00	271.00
Netherlands 10	345.00	345.00
Norway 10	11.35	11.35
Portugal 10	228.00	228.00
Spain 10	228.00	228.00
Sweden 10	12.07	12.07
Switzerland 10	2.25	2.25
USA 5	1.49	1.49
Yugoslavia 10	440.00	440.00

For more information bank notes only, as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC, to be supplied to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Retail prices index 376.7.

London: The FT index closed down 6.8 at 392.3.

Lake District films

Following the success of *Lakes* the introductory audio-visual programme launched earlier this year, the Lake District National Park is now releasing two further programmes: *Lakeland Life* depicting the working lives of various Lake District residents through a series of interviews with Peter Farrand, National Park Ranger; and *Enjoy the Fells in Safety*, in which the Ranger introduces this audio-visual programme about the Lake District fells. The hazards of the mountain environment are outlined together with advice on how best to cope with them. It covers planning, clothing, equipment, hill skills, leadership and dealing with emergencies. They are both £17.25 (plus £1.00 p&p) and can be obtained from: Youth and Schools Liaison Service, National Park Centre, Brockdish, Windermere, Cumbria, LA23 1LL.

The papers

The Star says that if President Mitterrand is a man of honour he should resign over the sinking of the Greenpeace ship *Rainbow Warrior*. It comments: "The parallels with the Watergate scandal are there for all to see. Not only has a gross crime been committed, there has also been an equally despicable attempted cover-up. In the end the remorseless power of the truth forced President Nixon to quit. No British premier could possibly survive under such a cloud of undisputed deception."

On the same subject The Sun says that the plot to sink the nuclear protest ship *Rainbow Warrior* in Auckland harbour, New Zealand, was hatched at the top of the French secret service. Comments: "It is hard to accept that the Prime Minister, Laurent Fabius, and even President Mitterrand, had no idea what was going on. The French have assured the Pacific countries that their nuclear experiments are perfectly safe. Why then don't they follow the Americans and the Russians and carry out underground tests in their own country? They could always use the sewers of Paris."

Wales and West: M4: Contrail, only one lane for eastbound traffic between junctions 22 and 23. Chepstow to Magor, Gwent, A46: Single-lane traffic and temporary lights on both carriageways. North: A1085: Traffic restrictions on Tecs to Newport bridge, Clevedon; A666: Diversions from St. Peter's Way and Farnworth. Kenilworth bypass, Greater Manchester.

Scotland: M6/A74: Delays for traffic travelling between Scotland and England due to resurfacing on A74 at end of M6 at junction 44. A75: Single-lane traffic at Invergarry.

AR35: Single-lane traffic at Kinlochewe (Ross and Argy). Lights 24 hours a day.

Information supplied by CAA.

Portfolio

Portfolio - how to play

Monday-Saturday record your daily Portfolio total.

Add these together to determine your weekly Portfolio total.

Share the total between the published weekly dividend figure, you have won outright or a share of the prize money stated for that week, and must claim your prize as instructed below.

How to claim

Telephone The Times Portfolio claims line 0254-52272 between 10.00 am and 3.30 pm, on the day your overall total matches The Times Portfolio dividend. No claims can be accepted outside these hours.

You must have your own copy when you win.

If you are unable to telephone someone else can claim on your behalf but they must have your card and call The Times Portfolio claims line between the stipulated times.

No responsibility can be accepted for failure to contact the claims office for any reason within the stated times.

The above instructions are applicable to both daily and weekly dividend claims.

Some Times Portfolio cards include minor mistakes in the instructions on the reverse side. These cards are not valid.

The wording of Rules 2 and 3 has been expanded from earlier versions for clarification purposes. The change is not an effect and will continue to be played in exactly the same way as before.

Lighting-up time

London: 7.25 pm to 6.21 am

Edinburgh: 7.34 pm to 6.31 am

Manchester: 7.35 pm to 6.30 am

Peterborough: 7.45 pm to 6.43 am

Weather

An anticyclone will persist over southern districts with a ridge of high pressure crossing northern areas.

Gam to midnight

London, East Angles, E. W. Midlands, E. central N. NE England: Mainly dry with sunny intervals after the clearance of early morning fog patches; wind mainly SW light, max temp 15 to 21c (59 to 70).

SE, central England: Mainly dry with sunny intervals, local coastal mist; wind variable, max temp 15 to 21c (59 to 70).

Channel Islands, SW England, S. Wales: Mainly dry, sunny intervals, isolated showers, local coastal mist; wind mainly SE light, max temp 17 to 19c (63 to 66).

N. Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man: Mainly dry with sunny intervals; wind S or SW light or moderate, max temp 16 to 18c (61 to 64).

Scotland, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands: Mainly dry with sunny intervals; wind S or SW light or moderate, max temp 15 to 17c (59 to 63).

North: Firth, NE Scotland, Argyll, Shetland, Northern Ireland: